

# KOREAN HANDBOOK

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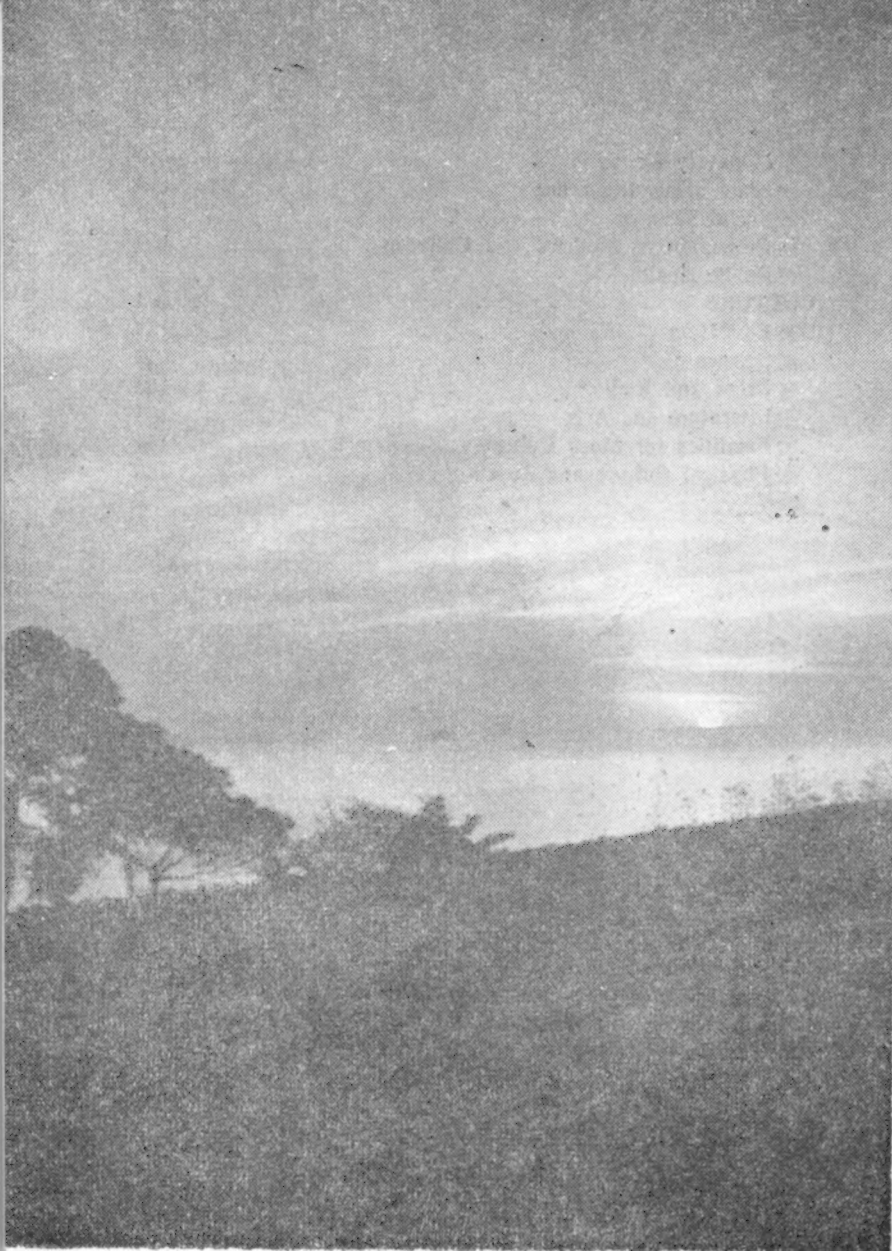
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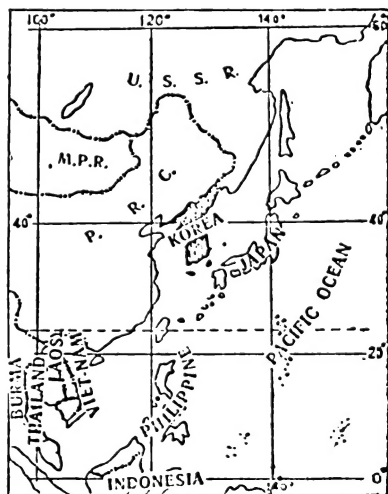
## GEOGRAPHY

### PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY

**Geographical position:** The Democratic People's Republic of Korea lies on a long peninsula jutting out from the eastern part of the Asian Continent. It extends from 33°6' to 43°N. and 124°11' to 131°51'E.

**Boundaries:** The Tumen and Yalu rivers and Mt. Baikdoo separate the country from its northern neighbours — the Maritime Provinces of the U.S.S.R. and the north-eastern region of the Chinese People's Republic. On the south, it is bordered by the South Sea which joins the Pacific, while on the east it faces Japan across the

*Geographical position of Korea*



*Sunrise on the East Sea. Korea, the Land of Morning Calm, is notable for its beautiful landscape*

East Sea (Sea of Japan). On the west it faces the east coast of the Chinese People's Republic across the Yellow Sea.

The total length of the boundary is approximately 10,000 kilometres, of which 87 per cent is coast-line.

**Area:** The total area of the country's territory is 220,741 square kilometres, of which 5,963 square kilometres are islands.

**Topography:** Korea is a mountainous country, 75 per cent of her territory being mountainous. The mountainous areas formed of old strata are gently sloping as a whole, and plateaus and basins cover most of the areas.

The average elevation above sea level is 482 metres and 43 per cent of the total areas is arable. There are numbers of high

*Water flowing down the ravine of Chaia Peak, one of the Twelve Thousand Peaks, Mt. Keumgang*





*Chaho, a fishing port on the east coast*

mountains including Mt. Baikdoo (2,744 m), and many are widely celebrated, especially, Mt. Keumgang (1,638 m), Mt. Myohyang (1,905 m), Mt. Chiri (1,915 m), Mt. Hanra (1,950 m) and others.

Plains lie mainly along the western and southern coasts.

Seas: Korea is surrounded by seas on three sides—the East Sea (Sea of Japan), South Sea (Tsushima Straits), and West Sea (Yellow Sea).

The east coast has few estuaries, indentations and islands. The depth of the East Sea is over 3,000 metres in places, and the difference between the rise

and fall of tide is not so great—50 centimetres on an average.

The west coast has many indentations and large numbers of islands in the coastal waters. The sea is shallow with an average depth of 44 metres and a maximum difference is 10 metres between low and high tides.

The South Sea lies between the East Sea and Yellow Sea.



*Taidong River, Pyongyang*

**Climate:** The seasonal changes in Korea are distinct. The climate is strongly influenced by the continental climate but the oceanic climate also affects it to no small extent.

The temperature is moderate with an average of 4-15° C. and the annual rainfall 1,000 mm on an average.

**Rivers:** The rivers in Korea are generally shallow and narrow and short but they have numbers of tributaries and take winding courses.

Among big rivers are the Yalu (790 km), the Tumen (520 km), the Han (514 km), the Rakdong (525 km), and the Taidong (430 km).

There are only a few natural lakes in the country. However



there are many large artificial "lakes," reservoirs built for hydro-electric power generation and irrigation and the number is increasing as a result of wide-scale construction of hydro-power stations and irrigation projects in the northern part of the country.

Of artificial lakes, the Soopoong Lake with an area of 365 square kilometres and the Jangjin Lake with an area of 54 square kilometres built for the purpose of power generation and the Yunpoong Reservoir with an area of 16 square kilometres built after the truce for irrigation purpose are most famous.

**Mineral resources:** Korea is celebrated for rich natural resources. As almost all major mineral ores are mined in the country, the country can be called a big specimen-room of minerals. So far more than 300 varieties of minerals have been found, of which over 140 are of economic value.

Coal deposits are estimated at about 2,500 million tons and rich deposits of high-quality iron ore are to be found in the various parts of the country. The Moosan Mine has 1,300 million tons of iron ore deposits.

Metals needed for alloy such as tungsten, molybdenite, nickel, manganese, chrome, cobalt and monazite, and non-ferrous metals such as copper, lead and zinc besides gold and silver are abundant.

The country has rich deposits of graphite, mica, asbestos, iron sulphide and apatite while kaolin and silica are to be found in abundance. It has also rich deposits of lime-stone, alabaster, steatite and marble.

These rich mineral resources provide favourable conditions for building powerful fuel bases and developing metal, machine-building, chemical, and building materials industries, the key branches for socialist industrialization.

Mild climate, favourable geographical conditions and surrounding seas provide possibilities of developing diversified agriculture, timber and fishing industries so as to supply light industry with abundant raw materials.

## POPULATION

According to the figure in 1942, before liberation, Korea had a population of round 26,360,000. Now it is estimated to be over 30,000,000, though the figure is not accurate due to the division of the territory caused by the U.S. occupation of South Korea since liberation.

The Korean race is a homogeneous people with one language. The Korean language is a phonetic language.

With the liberation of Korea on August 15, 1945, from the yoke of Japanese imperialists' rule by the great Soviet Army a complete change has been brought to the class structure of the population in the northern part of the Republic in the course of carrying out democratic reforms and socialist construction under the wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea.

Landlords and comprador capitalists were done away with, and national capitalists and rich farmers, though their number was negligible, have been transformed into the working people of socialist type.

Today the basic class in the North is composed of the working class and toiling peasants. The working class is playing a leading role in socialist construction. There is no longer exploitation by the capitalists. Our working class is now the genuine master of the liberated society. The peasants, the most reliable ally of the working class, have become the socialist toiling peasants embraced in agricultural co-ops, free from exploitation and oppression.

The intellectuals also have been remodelled into the working people of socialist type who serve the working class and peasants. With the growth of new style intellectuals from among workers and peasants, the number of intellectuals is increasing.

Handicraftsmen and small traders in urban districts also have become the working people of socialist type. They have been embraced in producers' co-ops on a voluntary principle.

Today the relations between town and country have developed to a new phase in the course of socialist revolution. In carrying out technical reconstruction and cultural revolution in the countryside, the guidance and assistance of the working class to the peasants are being further intensified. The further strengthening of the worker-peasant alliance and the enhancement of leading role of the working class will further speed up the development of agriculture and the remodelling of the peasants' consciousness.

The worker-peasant alliance constitutes the foundation of unity of the entire people and a decisive guarantee for the victory of revolution in our country.

Thanks to the measures taken by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic the material and cultural conditions of the people are improving day after day. Medical service available for the people is improving. Consequently the death rate has decreased sharply. In 1958 it decreased by 29 per cent as against the pre-war year of 1949 and by 24 per cent as against 1956.

## ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISIONS

In the northern part, administrative divisions are: provinces (or special cities), cities, counties (or districts), ri (or township and workers' settlements), and dong of cities.

The seats of provinces are:

Pyongyang (City of Pyongyang)

Pyongyang (South Pyongan Province), Shinuijoo (North Pyongan Province), Kanggye (Jagang Province), Hyesan (Ryanggang Province), Hamheung (South Hamkyung Province), Chungjin (North Hamkyung Province), Wonsan (Kangwon Province), Haijoo (South Hwanghai Province), Sariwon (North Hwanghai Province) and Kaesong (City of Kaesong).

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*On holidays workers throng the Moranbong Hill, a famous historic spot in Pyongyang .*



# HISTORY OF KOREA

## THE PRIMITIVE COMMUNITY

Our ancestors in ancient times formed a primitive matriarchal community which lasted long.

As the agricultural productive forces developed with the rapid development of bronze and iron tools, the matriarchal

*Mural painting of the Kokuryo period (Tomb in Anak, South Hwanghai Province, built in the 4th century)*



system began to give way to the patriarchal, resulting in collapse of the primitive community.

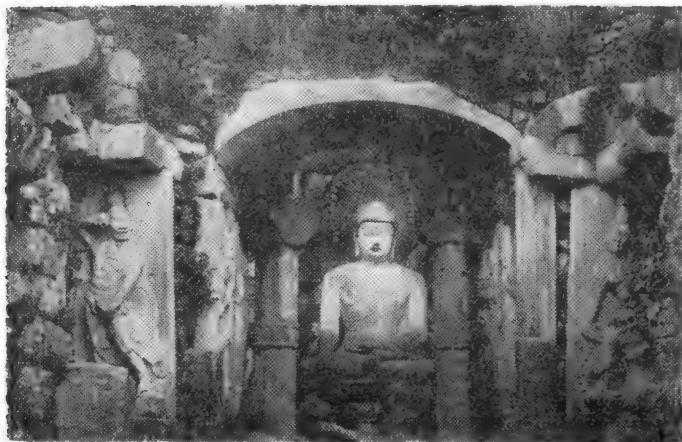
Around this time numerous clans and tribes were formed in Korea, which gradually changed into a class society.

Songs and dances which were created through labour among the tribes constitute one of the sources of our national culture.

### THREE KINGDOMS

Around the 1st century, neighbouring clans and tribes merged with each other and formed three kingdoms—Kokuryo, Pakche and Silla. The political power of each kingdom was

*Seated Bodhisattva in the Sukkool-am Cave (built in 751 A.D.)  
in Kyungjoo, old capital of Silla*



based on centralism. Though somewhat different in the level of social development, the three kingdoms were class societies with slaves, serfs and peasants as the oppressed.

Each of the three kingdoms had its own unique culture. Murals of the Kokuryo tombs and architecture of the Pakche era enjoy world-wide fame. The development of science and art in Silla was remarkable. The Chumsung-dai, an astronomical observatory built in the 7th century, is known as the first of its kind in the Orient

## **UNIFICATION OF THE THREE KINGDOMS BY SILLA**

In 668 A.D. Silla united the whole of Korea. Following its conquest of the other two kingdoms (Kokuryo and Pakche), Silla strengthened its feudal centralism and made a leaping advance in economy and culture. However, the power of Silla began to disintegrate as the aristocrats' landholdings became bigger and the peasants' revolts against merciless exploitation by the ruling circles became more vigorous.

Of the excellent cultural relics of the Unified Silla, the Sukkoolam Cave with magnificent sculpture and relieves, and the buildings and pagodas of the Bolkooksa Temple have been widely known throughout the world.

## **KORYU**

Taking advantage of the peasants' revolt against the feudal lords, Wang Kun established the Koryu Kingdom in 918 A.D. and conquered Silla in 935 A.D. and ruled the whole country.



Koryu also was a centralized feudal kingdom with no fundamental difference from the Unified Silla.

Koryu consolidated its political power and expanded its territory up to the Yalu River.

Towards the end of the 10th century and at the beginning of the 11th century the Kitans invaded Koryu, but the people defended honourably their fatherland.

After the war, agricultural productive forces grew further, and home and foreign trade also made long strides in Koryu.

From 1231 A.D. on, Koryu was attacked repeatedly by the Mongols, who at last subdued the ruling circles of Koryu. The patriotic people, however, never gave up their heroic resistance against the Mongols until they regained their sovereignty.

The Koryu people also frustrated every attempt of invasion by the Japanese pirates.

Due to the repeated invasion by the Mongols and to the sharp contradictions within the society, the Koryu dynasty began to decline, and was overthrown by Li Sung Kye and his followers, newly-risen aristocrats, in 1392.

During the Koryu era, science and culture made a remarkable advance. The "Sangjung Ryemoon" or a code of the Koryu published in 1221-1234 was the first book in the world printed by metal types. And the greenish-blue inlaid porcelain is of world-wide fame.



*Celadon of the Koryu period*

## LI DYNASTY

As a feudalistic state like Koryu, the Li Dynasty strengthened in its early days the political system based on centralism.

Agricultural productive forces made marked development, and science and culture also began flourishing on a full scale in the period of King Sejong (1419-1450).

In 1441, the first odometer in the world was invented in Korea and in 1443 the Korean letters, "Hoonmin Jungeum," were adopted, which was an epochal event in our history.

In 1592 our country was invaded by the Japanese aggressors who had long been planning to invade the Asian continent. However, the enemy was repulsed by our navy under the command of Admiral Li Soon Shin and the patriotic people's volunteers. And the aggressive scheme of the Japanese invaders was completely shattered. Enjoying the aid of the army from Ming, the Korean people dealt a decisive blow to the enemy and drove them out of Korea. Especially the tortoise-boat built by Admiral Li Soon Shin was the first armoured vessel in the world, which contributed greatly to the victory in the war.

From the middle of the 17th century to the 18th century trade and handicrafts developed and the volume of currency in circulation showed a steady increase.

The new social and economic conditions gave rise to a new ideological trend which found expression in the Practical School. The idea of the Practical School was to introduce foreign culture, especially the Western natural science, into our country in conformity with the country's reality, treasuring the tradition of our own culture while avoiding vain logic and empty prattle—the usual practice of the Confucianists—so as

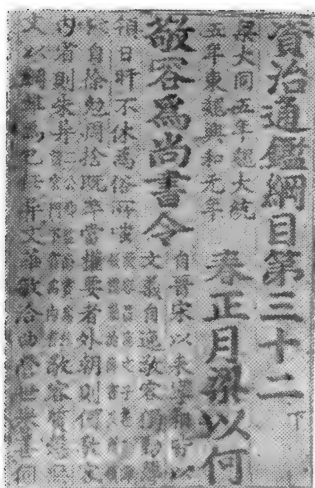
to develop the country into a strong and prosperous nation politically and economically by replacing the old with the new.

The realists of this school represented by Pak Ji Won, Jung Yak Yong and others aimed mainly at solving the land problem, abolishing the hierarchical system and opposing exaction by the ruling class.

Literature and art also made great progress in the Li Dynasty, which left many classical works. Highly refined music and dances, the famous "Tale of Choon Hyang," "Tale of Shim Chung" and other popular creative works were produced. Especially the realistic literary works and paintings influenced by the Practical School, porcelain, lacquer ware inlaid with mother-of-pearl, and other handicraft works of the time enjoy world-wide fame.

*"A naval battle fought by Admiral Li Soon Shin,"  
oil painting by Jung Hyun Woong*





*Zachi Tonggam, the first book in the world printed with the lead type cast in 1436. The medium and small letters were printed with copper type cast in 1434*

The new economic development in the 17th and 18th centuries based on circulation of money and commodity worked eventually to disintegrate the economic foundation of the feudal society. However, the ruling circles aggravated the social contradictions by their attempt to utilize these new factors for their feudal exploitation. As a result, the peasants' struggle against them became further intensified. The revolt of peasants in Pyongan Province (1811-1812) may be cited as an example.

## INROADS OF FOREIGN CAPITALISM

Korea's social and political situation in which unrest had been prevailing from the peasants' uprisings came to face a new crisis in the latter part of the 19th century, as foreign aggressive powers were penetrating into the country.

The patriotic Korean people fought heroically against

foreign aggressors. They sent the U.S. pirate ship General Sherman to the bottom of the Taidong River in 1866 and later repulsed a French fleet, and then a U.S. fleet. However, the incompetent rulers of the feudal Li Dynasty opened the door to aggressors by concluding various unequal treaties with such capitalist powers as Japan, the United States, Britain and Germany.

The foundation of self-supporting economy and handicraft in Korea was hard hit by the introduction of foreign capitalism. Especially the militarist-feudalistic Japanese capitalism spelled bankruptcy for Korea's economy. Moreover, as foreign goods kept flowing in and circulation of currency developed, Korea was gradually turned into a semi-feudal, semi-colonial country.

In 1884, the Kaihwa-pa, or an "enlightenment group," whose aim was to replace the feudal society in Korea with a modern one, staged a coup d'etat and assumed the reins of power. But their rule was a very short one in face of the conservatives' resistance.

In the meantime, the people continued their struggle against aggression of foreign capitalist powers and against the feudal rulers who submitted to alien invaders, and in 1894 a big-scale peasants' uprising took place in Cholla Province.

The peasant army led by Jun Bong Joon having seized the Junjoo Fortress prepared to continue their march to the capital. Soon the uprising swept the country and the peasants throughout the country rose in revolt which threw the feudal rulers into a panic. The bewildered rulers asked Ching for help. Taking advantage of the confusion and enjoying the aid from the U.S. and Britain, the Japanese army landed in Korea and suppressed the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal struggle of the peasants in a most cruel way.



*Peasant army led by Jun Bong Joon liberated Koboo  
in 1891*

## **JAPANESE IMPERIALISTS' OCCUPATION OF KOREA**

Through the Sino-Japanese War (1894-1895) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904-1905), the Japanese imperialists made Korea its "protectorate."

The hatred of the Korean people toward Japanese imperialism became further heightened, and it exploded into the Righteous Army Struggle against the Japanese imperialists. From the end of the 90's, especially inspired by the Russian Revolution (1905-1907), the struggle became more vigorous. In particular, the

struggle led by Hong Bum Do and Cha Do Sun in Hamkyung Province was a great menace to Japanese imperialists and the landlords who became the bed-fellows of the Japanese imperialists.

In this period, the patriotic enlightenment movement was launched, challenging Japanese imperialists and feudal rulers. This movement paved the way for going over to modern civilization from feudal one and contributed to some extent to stimulating the anti-feudal, anti-Japanese patriotic spirit of the people.

Despite the resistance of the whole nation, the Japanese imperialists who had been virtually occupying Korea since the Russo-Japanese war, backed by the U.S. and British imperialists and in collusion with the pro-Japanese feudal rulers of Korea such as the traitor Li Wan Yong, concocted the "Annexation Treaty" in August 1910.

Thus Korea was turned into a complete colony of Japan and the Korean people were subjected to the Japanese imperialists' tyrannical rule.

## JAPANESE IMPERIALISTS' COLONIAL RULE

The period of the Japanese imperialists' rule in Korea (1910-1945) was that of merciless colonial plunder and unheard-of oppression and exploitation of the Korean people by the Japanese imperialists. They indulged in economic exploitation by combining colonialist and capitalist methods with feudal methods. The independent development of Korea's economy was barred and it was made an appendage of Japan's economy. Thus Korea's national industry was completely paralyzed.

Pursuing a colonial predatory policy, they enforced a military police rule. In fact they covered the whole country with the network of gendarmerie and police stations and prisons.

Due to the Japanese imperialists' colonial plundering and enslavement policy, the Korean working people were subjected to double or treble exploitation and cruel oppression by the Japanese imperialists and their henchmen, Korean landlords and comprador capitalists.

However, the Korean people never ceased to struggle for independence and freedom against oppression and exploitation.

### MARCH 1 POPULAR UPRISING

The Great October Socialist Revolution, which ushered in a new era in human history, brought a radical turning-point in the history of our national liberation struggle.

Marxism-Leninism spread rapidly in our country and the revolutionary spirit of the popular masses against Japanese imperialism grew day by day.

Under the direct influence of the Great October Revolution, the anti-Japanese movement of the popular masses showed an upward swing. In such circumstances the March 1 Popular Uprising took place on March 1, 1919, with demonstrations in Seoul as a start.

This anti-imperialist, anti-feudal popular uprising continued for several months with the participation of over two million people throughout the country. But the uprising was suppressed by arms of the Japanese imperialists. The failure of the up-



rising is to be explained by the fact that the treacherous bourgeois nationalists surrendered to the Japanese imperialists; the working class was still in infancy; and the people were without a revolutionary party which could exercise a unified leadership.

With the March 1 Popular Uprising as a divide, the era of bourgeois nationalist movement ended and a new stage opened in the national liberation struggle led by the proletariat.

## **GROWTH OF WORKERS' AND PEASANTS' MOVEMENT**

As capitalism developed in an abnormal way in our country under the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule, the ranks of the working class grew and the workers' movement was stepped up. Influenced by the growing workers' movement, the peasants also began to rise up.

It was in such circumstances that the Korean Communist Party was organized in 1925. The founding of the Korean Communist Party signified an advance in our revolutionary movement to some extent. However, in 1928, the Korean Communist Party, having no link with the awakening workers and peasants, ceased to exist as an organized force due to the criminal factional scheme by various factionists who wormed into the leadership of the Party and ruthless oppression by the Japanese imperialists.

From the end of the 20's to the early 30's the workers' and peasants' struggle made rapid development, and it gradually came to assume the character of a mass revolt. Beginning with the general strike in Wonsan in 1929, strikes and revolts took place in succession: a strike at the Pusan Textile Mill, a strike at the Pyongyang Rubber Factory and the workers' demonstra-

tion, a revolt of the miners in the Shinheung Coal Mine, anti-Japanese demonstration of the peasants in Jungpyung County, South Hamkyung Province, and the peasants' revolt in Dan-chun County in 1930, and a strike of students in Kwangjoo in 1929 which was followed by nation-wide students' movement, and so forth. In such an upsurge of struggle, the worker-peasant alliance gained in strength and the Korean revolutionary forces led by the working class under the leadership of Communists began to grow into a force able to wage protracted arduous armed struggle against Japanese imperialism.

### **DEVELOPMENT OF ANTI-JAPANESE NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT TO A NEW STAGE— BEGINNING OF ANTI-JAPANESE PARTISAN STRUGGLE**

In the 30's the Korean national liberation movement came to have its leaders—the staunch Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung—and took a correct line of struggle and strategy.

In view of the inevitability of the development of our national liberation struggle, Comrade Kim Il Sung established the most scientific strategy and tactics by creatively applying the general principles of Marxism-Leninism to the realities of our country. He made it clear that the Korean Communists should strengthen their ideological and organizational unity and solidarity; they should impart a higher purposeful consciousness and organized character to the surging mass movement so as to convert it into a more positive, popular armed struggle.

At the same time Comrade Kim Il Sung advocated the

necessity of organizing a Marxist-Leninist Party of a new type; of forming a broad-scale united anti-Japanese national front on the basis of worker-peasant alliance under the leadership of the working class so as to strengthen the mass base of our revolutionary movement; of linking our national liberation struggle closely with the international labour movement under the banner of proletarian internationalism.

For carrying out these tasks, under the guidance of the staunch Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung, the anti-Japanese people's partisan units consisting of workers, peasants, progressive youth and students were formed in 1932 in Antu, Wangching, Yenchi, Hunchun, Huolung, etc. in east Manchuria.

## ESTABLISHMENT OF PARTISAN BASES

In 1932, Comrade Kim Il Sung and his comrades-in-arms set up the liberated areas, the partisan bases, in various parts of east Manchuria.

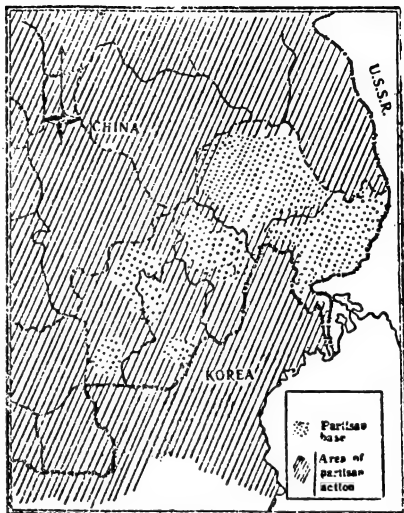
In these areas, the organizations of the Party and Communist Youth League and various kinds of anti-Japanese mass organizations were formed, and the revolutionary people's power was set up under the leadership of the Communists.

The revolutionary people's power carried out a series of democratic, social and economic reforms, such as the land reform on the principle of confiscating and distributing without compensation the land owned by landlords and national traitors to the peasants with little or no land and enforcement of an 8-hour day.

## FOUNDING OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY ARMY

With the partisan units growing in strength and scope, Comrade Kim Il Sung formed in 1934 the Korean People's Revolutionary Army as a unified military organization. The partisan units thus developed into a large combined army and inflicted great loss upon the Japanese imperialists by large-scale mobile operations while further strengthening the partisan bases. The ever growing Soviet might gave the People's Revolutionary Army a firmer conviction of final victory in their arduous struggle. It was an invariable aim of the staunch Korean Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung to protect the Soviet Union with arms and learn from her.

Under the influence of the anti-Japanese armed struggle the labour movement at home showed further upsurge.



*Liberated districts—partisan base  
of anti-Japanese partisan units  
(1932-1935)*

## FATHERLAND RESTORATION ASSOCIATION AND ITS 10-ARTICLE PROGRAMME

The staunch Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, while developing an extensive armed struggle, in pace with the international revolutionary tides to form an anti-fascist people's front around the middle of the thirties', organized in 1936 the Fatherland Restoration Association, a mass organization of the anti-Japanese united front.

This Association organized under the guidance of the staunch Communists and comprising many anti-Japanese organizations and patriots of all strata at home and abroad, was the first national united front based on the worker-peasant alliance.

The 10-Article Programme of the Association worked out by Comrade Kim Il Sung was the first revolutionary programme, an embodiment of creative application of Marxism-Leninism to the revolutionary situation of Korea at that time.

The programme clearly elucidated the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal and democratic tasks, the tasks of establishing people's power and carrying out reforms in the social, economic and cultural fields. The programme reflected correctly the interests and requirements of all sections of the Korean people. It was, therefore, supported even by some groups of national bourgeoisie. Thus the Fatherland Restoration Association came to embrace more than 200,000 members in a few months after its inauguration, and its organizational network spread throughout the northeast districts of China and in various parts of Korea.

The organization of the Fatherland Restoration Association served to muster all patriotic forces under the guidance of the working class.

## TORCHLIGHT OF BOCHUNBO

The Korean People's Revolutionary Army, steeled further through the battles, delivered fatal blows to the Japanese forces who had attempted frequent large-scale "punitive" operations. It set up its partisan base in the Changpei districts bordering on Korea and was preparing for its march to the homeland.

On June 4, 1937, one of the People's Revolutionary Army units led by Comrade Kim Il Sung attacked Bochunbo, an enemy's stronghold in the northern border region of Korea,



*"Torchlight of Bochunbo" Oil painting by Jung Kwan Chul*

dealing a telling blow to the enemy and invigorated the confidence of the Korean people in the liberation and independence of the country.

This victory in Bocheonbo redoubled the conviction of the Korean people, who were under the cruel fascist rule and suppression by the Japanese imperialists, in their national independence and liberation.

## **GROWTH OF ANTI-JAPANESE ARMED STRUGGLE**

Having unleashed the Sino-Japanese war in 1937 the Japanese imperialists suppressed and exploited the Korean people in an even more cruel, fascist manner. People were arrested and massacred en masse and the Korean youth was forcibly dragged into the army. The Japanese imperialists even forbade the Korean people to speak their mother tongue, intensified their inhuman policy of eradicating the Korean national culture.

However, the anti-Japanese armed struggle of the Korean people led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, cherishing the honour of the nation and upholding the banner of freedom and independence, grew further in scale and strength. The Korean People's Revolutionary Army, holding aloft the banner of proletarian internationalism, unfolded large-scale mobile operations throughout northeast China in co-operation with the Chinese people's revolutionary forces. The Korean People's Revolutionary Army waged more than 3,900 operations from 1937 to 1939, delivering heavy blows to the enemy.

After provoking the Pacific War, the Japanese imperialists reinforced their armed forces deployed along the Soviet border line for the purpose of unleashing an aggressive war against

the Soviet Union. Taking advantage of this opportunity, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army passed over to the tactics of small-scale surprise attacks, and delivered successive blows to the enemy at every strategic point.

The protracted, indomitable anti-Japanese struggle of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army served as an inexhaustible source, from which the Korean people drew their hope for freedom in the dark period.

Also the anti-Japanese armed struggle created the revolutionary spirit—boundless loyalty to the revolution, unlimited love for the people, conviction of victory in the cause of Marxism-Leninism and unparalleled heroism surmounting all hardships and difficulties.

The anti-Japanese armed struggle led by Comrade Kim Il Sung developed into an invincible force because their revolutionary movement strictly abided by

*Young generation studying the revolutionary tradition of the Korean People's Revolutionary Army at an old battle-field*





Marxism-Leninism, took deep root among the popular masses, relied firmly upon the growing international revolutionary forces and determinedly ensured the unity of ideology and action among the ranks.

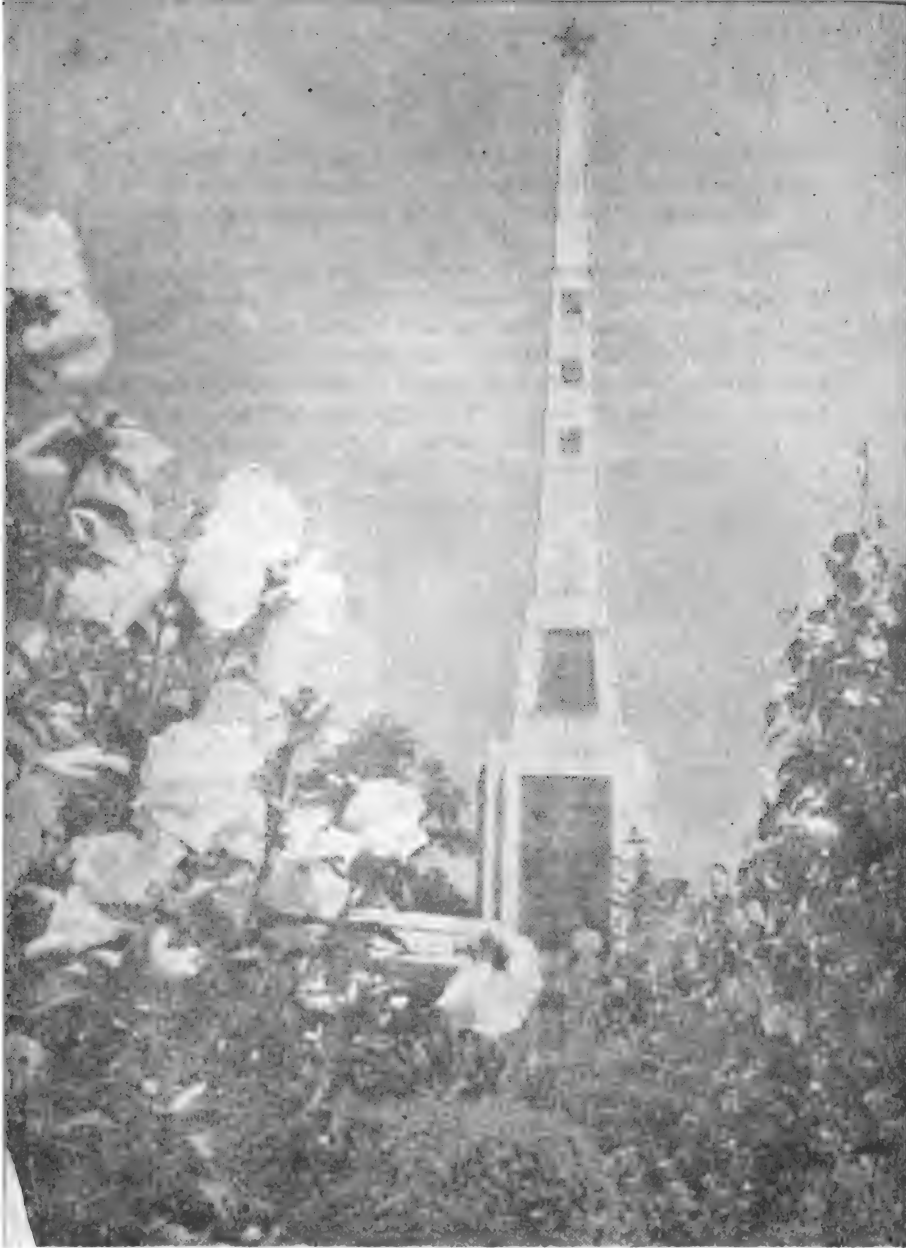
Thus the struggle waged by the staunch Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung, beacon of the revolutionary movement in Korea, established for the first time in the history of our national liberation struggle the firm leadership of the working class, and laid the firm organizational and ideological foundation for the building of a Marxist-Leninist Party.

The staunch Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung achieved brilliant exploits in the 30's and established the priceless revolutionary tradition, which served as a source of their confidence in victory.

## **LIBERATION OF KOREA BY THE SOVIET ARMY**

When the great Soviet Union declared war upon Japan on August 9, 1945, the Korean People's Revolutionary Army participated in the war shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Army. On August 15, 1945, only a few days after the proclamation of war by the great Soviet armed forces, Japan surrendered unconditionally.

Thus the Korean people were liberated from the 36-year long colonial rule of the Japanese imperialists.



# KOREAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE FOR FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND UNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY

## INTERNAL SITUATION AFTER LIBERATION

The liberation of Korea by the great Soviet Army opened a new era in the history of the Korean people.

Amid deep emotion and excitement of a liberated people, the entire Korean people, organizing the people's committees—the power organs of their own—throughout the country, started to build a sovereign, independent state.

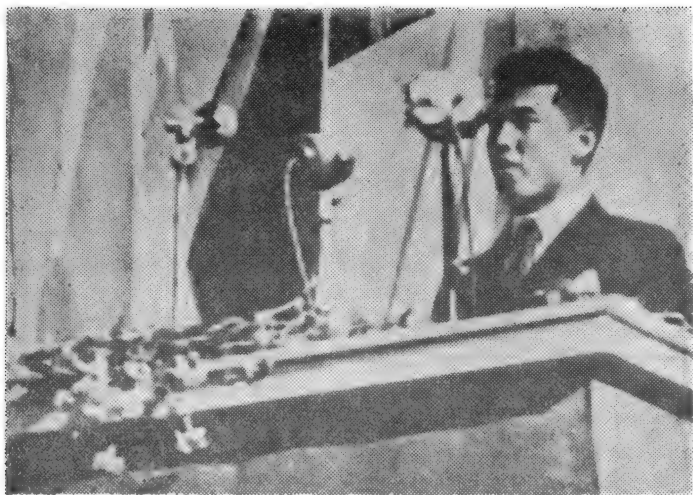
Comrade Kim Il Sung and other staunch Communists who had returned home in triumph after crushing Japanese militarism together with the great Soviet Army, played a decisive role in the development of the Korean revolution.

Under the favourable conditions in North Korea where the Soviet Army—the true liberator and helper of the Korean people—was stationed, the staunch Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung set about the work of organizing a Marxist-Leninist Party of a new type, and establishing a unified people's power throughout Korea by rallying the democratic forces with the working class as the core.

However, no sooner had the American imperialists, who did



*Liberation Monument in Pyongyang built in honour of  
Korea's liberation by the great Soviet Army*



*Comrade Kim Il Sung after his triumphant return to the fatherland (1945) pointing to the path the liberated Korean people should take*

not fire a single shot for the liberation of Korea, landed in South Korea in September 1945 than they took over lock, stock and barrel the Japanese ruling apparatus, and set up the "Military Government."

The people's committees were dissolved, democratic forces were suppressed and South Korea was converted into a colony and a military base of the U.S. imperialists. To this end they mustered all the reactionary forces—a handful of landlords, comprador capitalists, pro-Japanese and national traitors who had been extremely weakened after Japan's surrender.

Thus, an enormous obstacle loomed in the path of the Korean people's struggle to build a democratic independent state. The Korean revolution came to assume complex, arduous and protracted nature.

## FOUNDING OF A MARXIST-LENINIST PARTY

It was in such situation that the staunch Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung started to organize a revolutionary Party.

Comrade Kim Il Sung put forward the political and organizational lines for the founding of a Marxist-Leninist Party on the organizational and ideological basis which he worked out in the course of the anti-Japanese, national liberation struggle for 15 years.

Comrade Kim Il Sung defined the character of the Korean revolution as the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution and elucidated the immediate tasks. Comrade Kim Il Sung, pointing out the peculiarities of the revolution which could not be carried out simultaneously in North and South Korea in view of the U.S. occupation of South Korea, proposed to establish a powerful democratic base in North Korea. Moreover, he proposed that the Party should be organized as a Marxist-Leninist Party of a new type embodying Leninist organizational principles and standards of Party life, and that its central organ should be located in North Korea, the revolutionary democratic base, where the Soviet Army was stationed.

In this way, the North Korean Organizing Committee of the Communist Party of Korea as the central organ of the Party was formed in October 1945 by the staunch Communists

headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung by rallying the revolutionary workers and working masses, shattering every scheme of all hues of factionists who attempted to hinder the founding of the Party for their dirty political end.

The North Korean Organizing Committee of the Communist Party of Korea, basing itself on the united front of all the democratic forces, set forth the tasks of establishing the people's power, thoroughly liquidating the remnants of Japanese imperialism, strengthening the people's power, carrying out democratic reforms, and rehabilitating and developing the national economy. At the same time, the Party set forth the line for establishing a revolutionary democratic base, a guarantee for carrying out the revolution throughout Korea.

For this purpose, the Party, while consolidating the unity and solidarity of its ranks, struggled to further expand and strengthen the Party and rally the broader masses around it.

Under the guidance of the Party, the local people's committees were gradually consolidated by rearranging their organizational structure, and trade union organizations in factories and enterprises, as well as peasants' unions, youth leagues and women's unions were organized in all parts of the country. In this way, the people from every walk of life, firmly rallied around the Communist Party, actively participated in building a sovereign, independent state along the road indicated by the Party.

### **MOSCOW THREE FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE ON KOREAN QUESTION**

The Moscow Three Foreign Ministers Conference held in

December 1945 adopted the decision on the Korean question.

Duly reflecting the Korean people's long cherished aspiration, the decision called for establishing a democratic provisional government in order to develop Korea into a democratic, sovereign and independent state.

Therefore, the Korean people, unanimously expressing their full support, worked for the realization of the Moscow Conference decision.

However, the U.S. imperialists, stubbornly set against the implementation of the decision in pursuit of their aggressive aims, split our country into north and south by using the 38th parallel as an artificial barrier.

Such situation necessitated the putting into effect of the decision of the Three Foreign Ministers Conference, if only in North Korea.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRATIC BASE**

To establish a democratic base, the Party set up, first of all, the North Korean Provisional People's Committee in February 1946 on the basis of the united front of democratic political parties and social organizations.

The North Korean Provisional People's Committee under the guidance of the Party thoroughly carried out the anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic reforms in a matter of a few months.

Under the land reform enforced on March 5, 1946, land

belonging to the Japanese imperialists and the Korean landlords was confiscated and distributed without compensation to the peasants who tilled it. Thus the cherished desire of the peasantry for land was realized and the feudal system of exploitation in North Korea was liquidated once and for all. And the material foundation of the landlords completely collapsed.

Under the Law on Nationalization of Industry, Railways, Transport, Communications, Banks, etc. promulgated on August 10, 1946, all factories, enterprises, railways, commerce and cultural organs belonging to the Japanese imperialists and their running dogs were confiscated without compensation and nationalized.

As a result of the nationalization of major industries, the economic foundation of the Japanese imperialists and the pro-Japanese was completely eliminated and the state-run economy, the socialist economic form, came to occupy the leading place in our national economy.

Under the Labour Law (promulgated on June 24, 1946), the workers and office-employees were completely liberated from the colonial exploitation, given an 8-hour day, equal pay for equal work, social insurance, etc.

On July 30, 1946 the Law on Equality of Sex was promulgated. Under this law the women in North Korea were freed from the colonial and feudal suppression of long standing and came to enjoy the right to participate in all fields of state, political, economic and cultural activities on the equal terms with men.

In the field of education, culture, public health and jurisdiction, democracy was put into practice.

The successful execution of such reforms dealt a decisive





*Mass rally in celebration of land reform (1946)*

blow to the reactionary forces of landlords and pro-Japanese capitalists. A definite end was put to the feudal and colonial systems in society and economy.

With the establishment of the people's power and the enforcement of various democratic reforms, the people's democratic system based on the new economic foundation and class relations was established in North Korea, and the firm democratic base as the material foundation for the unification of the country was firmly established, and material conditions for socialist construction were created.

## INTENSIFICATION OF U.S. AGGRESSIVE POLICY

Contrary to the successful progress of democratic construction in North Korea, the U.S. aggressive policy in South Korea became more open.

The U.S. imperialists plundered all properties formerly belonged to the Japanese imperialists under the name of "enemy properties," and took possession of 90 per cent of the South Korean industry, causing great destruction, even dismantling some factories. Then they flooded South Korea with U.S. surplus goods. In the field of agriculture, they reinstituted the feudal landlord system and intensified the colonial-slavish exploitation.

The U.S. imperialists built and expanded their military establishments, rapidly increased the mercenary army equipped with U.S. made weapons. Thus, they consistently pursued a war policy. The struggle of the South Korean people against such colonial subjugation policy of the U.S. and the building of military bases was mounting day by day. To suppress the national salvation movement of the South Korean people, the U.S. imperialists established in South Korea a completely fascist, terror police system. Numerous people were arrested, imprisoned or slaughtered.

Also, the U.S. imperialists, after deliberately wrecking the work of the joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. commission held in March 1946 in accordance with the decision of the Moscow Conference, did everything possible to split the Korean people by further intensifying the cruel suppression of the democratic forces, the Communist Party in particular.

## **FOUNDING OF THE WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA**

In the light of the different situations created in North and South Korea, the North Korean Workers' Party was founded in August 1946 by merging the Communist Party and the New Democratic Party, and in South Korea, the South Korean Workers' Party in November 1946 by merging the Communist Party, the New Democratic Party and the People's Party.

Then in 1949, the North and South Korean Workers' Parties were merged to set up the Workers' Party of Korea in order to strengthen the unified leadership and consolidate the organizational and ideological unity of the Party ranks.

## **FOUNDING OF THE NORTH KOREAN PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE**

Power organs at all levels in North Korea were consolidated through the elections held for the first time in our history at the end of 1946 and the beginning of 1947. The elections were conducted on the democratic principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

The North Korean People's Committee thus established waged a tenacious struggle for fulfilling the revolutionary tasks throughout Korea, and at the same time set out to implement the tasks of a gradual transition to socialism, further extending and consolidating the gains of democratic reforms and planning the national economy.

## **SOUTH KOREAN PEOPLE'S STRUGGLE**

The South Korean people who were inspired greatly by the fact that the North Korean people under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea were scoring brilliant achievements in democratic construction and leading a happy life, demanded that the democratic reforms enforced in North Korea be carried out in South Korea, and the joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. commission be resumed while struggling against the colonial enslavement policy of the U.S. imperialists.

The general strike in September 1946 and the October people's uprising participated in by 2,280,000 people from early October to late November 1946, the struggle of students and teachers against the "Programme for Establishment of National University" in 1946 and the general strike on March 22, 1947 were some of the outstanding examples of their fight.

### **FABRICATION OF SEPARATE "ELECTIONS" AND SEPARATE "GOVERNMENT" BY THE U.S. IMPERIALISTS**

As the democratic base in North Korea was being strengthened and developed day by day and the struggle of the South Korean people against the U.S. imperialists grew further in strength and scope, the U.S. imperialists resorted further openly to their policy of dividing Korea and splitting the Korean nation.

The U.S. imperialists deliberately wrecked again the work of the joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. commission which was resumed in

May 1947 by the sincere efforts of the Soviet Government and the strong demand of the Korean people and brought illegally the Korean question to the U.N. General Assembly in October 1947.

The settlement of the Korean question lies not in the competence of the U.N.

It must be solved in accordance with the will of the Korean people. But the U.S. imperialists schemed to attain their aggressive aim by utilizing their "voting machine" in the U.N. in flagrant violation of the international agreement and the U.N. Charter.

Facing the fierce opposition of the entire Korean people against the "United Nations Temporary Commission on Korea," the U.S. imperialists immediately forced the "U.N. Little Assembly" held in February 1948, to adopt the decision for establishing a separate government in South Korea by holding separate elections on May 10, 1948.

## **JOINT CONFERENCE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA**

As the aggressive ambition of the U.S. imperialists to divide Korea and convert South Korea into their colony and military base was completely exposed, some of the middle-of-the-roaders and even some rightist parties came out against the U.S. imperialists.

In order to break national deadlock and unfold a national salvation struggle by rallying all patriotic forces opposing the country-selling May 10 "separate elections," the Workers' Party of Korea proposed the convening of a joint conference of

representatives of North and South Korean political parties and social organizations.

The joint conference was held in Pyongyang in April 1948 with the attendance of 56 North and South Korean political parties and social organizations. The entire attendants of the conference gave full support to the report made by Comrade Kim Il Sung proposing a militant task to establish a unified central government on democratic principles by boycotting the U.S. backed separate elections in South Korea. The conference made it clear that the Korean people would on no account recognize a government set up through such "elections" as the U.S. imperialists was staging in South Korea.

### **FABRICATION OF PUPPET GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH KOREA**

In face of the struggle to boycott the separate elections waged by the people of all strata headed by the members of the Workers' Party of Korea in north and south, the U.S. imperialists ran wild in fabricating the "elections."

They mobilized their aggressive army, puppet police, and terrorist gangs to arrest, imprison, torture and massacre at random the people who expressed their opposition to the "elections." At last they set up the Syngman Rhee puppet government by fabricating elections through intimidation, threat and fraudulence.

With the fabrication of the puppet government, a tool of U.S. invasion of Korea and a reactionary organ of power to serve the interests of the landlords, comprador capitalists and

to suppress the working people, the situation in our country became more complicated.

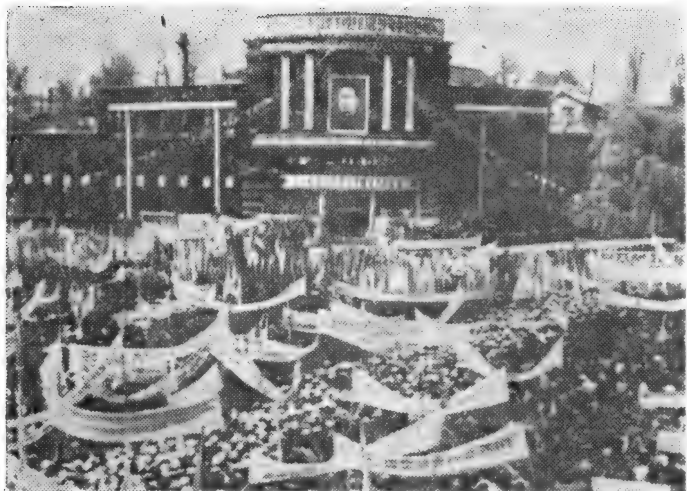
## **FOUNDING OF THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA**

In view of the urgency of the situation, the Workers' Party of Korea, relying on the united patriotic forces of North and South Korea, set forth the national salvation measure to hold nation-wide elections to establish a state representing the will of the entire Korean people.

Thus, under the guidance of the Workers' Party and with the active participation of the people of North and South Korea, nation-wide elections to the Supreme People's Assembly were held on August 25, 1948.

In the North 99.97 per cent of the entire electors took part in the elections and in the South 77.52 per cent in defiance of the cruel suppression of the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique. And at its First Session which opened in September 1948 in Pyongyang, the Constitution was adopted and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea was proclaimed. This was followed by the formation of the Cabinet headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea which inherited the patriotic revolutionary tradition of the Korean people and embodied the unanimous aspirations of our nation for freedom and independence is a genuine people's state, established for the first time in our history by the people, to serve the interests of the people.



*Mass rally of Pyongyang citizens in celebration  
of the founding of the Democratic People's Re-  
public of Korea (in 1948)*

"Thus our country, which had lost its colour on the world map for a long time, has reappeared in the international arena under the new flag of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as a member of the mighty socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union." (Kim Il Sung.)

## **WITHDRAWAL OF THE SOVIET ARMY FROM KOREA**

'Relying upon the great achievements gained in democratic construction in the northern part of the Republic, the Govern-



ment of the Republic took the position that all foreign troops must withdraw from Korea and the Korean question be left to the Korean people themselves. This stand is the most reasonable for the country's peaceful unification and independence.

At the request of the First Session of the D.P.R.K. Supreme People's Assembly for the simultaneous withdrawal of the Soviet and U.S. troops, the Soviet Government had withdrawn all its troops from North Korea by the end of 1948, opening the path towards an early solution of the Korean question.

The U.S. imperialists, however, have kept their armed forces stationed in South Korea on absurd pretexts and have been busy preparing for another war.

In view of the grave situation caused by the open war policy of the U.S. imperialists, the Workers' Party of Korea took again a series of measures to meet the situation.

The United Democratic Fatherland Front which was formed by the initiative of the Workers' Party of Korea in June 1949 with an affiliation of 72 political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea issued a declaration on the country's peaceful unification demanding the withdrawal of the U.S. troops and the establishment of a united government through all-Korea elections. And in June 1950, the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly proposed to the South Korean authorities to hold negotiations for the promotion of the country's peaceful unification.

The entire Korean people ardently supported these proposals and worked for the realization of them.

However, the aggressive U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique answered these peaceful proposals with the war which they had long prepared for.

## U.S. PROVOKED WAR

On June 25, 1950, the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique, at the instigation of the U.S. imperialists, launched a surprise attack against the North. It was a link in the chains of the war policy the U.S. had been pursuing since the end of the Second World War in its wild dream of world domination.

In unleashing the aggressive war in Korea the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rheeites aimed to blot out the people's democratic system established in the northern part of the Re-

*Dulles, notorious war-monger and igniter of the Korean war, during his personal inspection of the 38th parallel (June 18, 1950)*



public and turn our country into a permanent U.S. colony. Furthermore, they were reckless enough to scheme an invasion upon the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China.

## FATHERLAND LIBERATION WAR

Due to the aggressive war unleashed by the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique the peaceful construction in the northern part of the country was suspended and the people were drawn into the righteous Fatherland Liberation War against the enemy.

On June 26, 1950, Premier Kim Il Sung made a historic speech over radio calling upon the entire Korean people to rise up for victory in the war.

In response to the call of their beloved leader Premier Kim Il Sung, the entire people came forward to fight under the slogan, "All for Victory in the War!"

The Korean People's Army which inherited the revolutionary tradition of anti-Japanese armed struggle of the staunch Communists headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung and was trained by the Workers' Party, shattered the surprise attack of the enemies and went over to counter-attack. In hot chase of the fleeing enemy—the U.S. army, the self-styled "strongest" in the world, and the Syngman Rhee puppet army—the Korean People's Army liberated almost the entire areas of South Korea in only one and a half months.

Thus the U.S. imperialists faced a miserable defeat in their aggressive scheme militarily, politically, and morally at the hands of the counter attacking Korean People's Army. Hereupon the enemy mobilized the bulk of their army, navy and air force, and even part of their fleet in the Mediterranean Sea

and dragged the armies of their satellites into the Korean front, launching a new general offensive.

In such situation, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic decided to make a temporary strategic retreat in order to prepare for another decisive blow to the enemy and turn the table of war.

The U.S. armed aggressors perpetrated unheard-of brutal atrocities against the people everywhere they temporarily occupied in the North. The enemy satisfied their lust for blood by mass slaughter of members of the Workers' Party of Korea and patriotic people. In Shinchun County, South Hwanghai Province, more than 35,000 residents were slaughtered. People were burnt or buried alive. The U.S. army destroyed the people's

*Commanders of the Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers discussing joint operations (in the winter of 1950)*



government organs and restored the colonial ruling system. They looted the people's properties and wantonly destroyed and burnt towns and villages. They aided and abetted the liquidated landlords, comprador capitalists, and national traitors in organizing the terrorist organ "Chiandai," as tools of their subversion and pillage. Such brutal atrocities of the enemy inflamed still further the rage and enmity of the Korean people.

In response to the Party's call, our patriotic young men and women volunteered in a stream for service in the People's Army, and in every district which was under enemy occupation partisan units were organized on a wide scale under the leadership of the underground Party, inflicting severe blows upon the enemy.

The Korean people, rallied still more firmly around the Party and Government in the period of temporary strategic retreat, prepared for a new counter-attack.

The U.S. armed invasion of Korea evoked indignation and protest among the freedom-loving peoples the world over.

From the first day of the war, the Soviet Union, Chinese People's Republic and other socialist countries and the world peace-loving forces unfolded a world-wide movement against the U.S. armed invasion of Korea, demanding strongly, "U.S. imperialists, hands off Korea!"

During the period of strategic retreat, the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea for preparing a new decisive blow to the enemy to turn the war situation favourable for our side was carried through correctly. The fighting strength of the People's Army grew mightier, and conditions for going over to a decisive counter-offensive were created. It was at such time that the Chinese People's Volunteers joined the Korean front, setting a new example of proletarian internationalist aid. The Chinese people sent their best sons and daughters to the Korean front

Under the banner of "Resist U.S. Aggression, Aid Korea, Protect the Home and Defend the Country," to aid the Korean people in their just struggle with their own blood. They volunteered to fight the aggressive U.S. imperialists who were out to conquer the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and to make it a stepping stone for their invasion of China.

With a radical change in the balance of power, the situation turned decisively in favour of us. Under such conditions, the Korean People's Army in closely coordinated operation with the Chinese People's Volunteers went over again to an overall offensive on all fronts.

*As photo shows, all towns were destroyed and innocent people massacred by the barbarous U.S. bombing*



The Korean and Chinese units drove the enemy forces to the south of the 38th parallel annihilating great numbers of the enemy in encirclement operations.

The people in the rear also fought valiantly under the guidance of the Workers' Party as the People's Army did on the front.

The U.S. imperialists under cover of United Nations flag mobilized a large number of mercenaries from their 15 satellite countries. They resorted to the most barbarous destructive warfare in their attempt to subjugate the Korean people.

However, every notorious offensive of theirs was repulsed by the heroic Korean People's Army and Chinese People's Volunteers units.

Seized with panic over their defeat on the front and the denunciation by world public opinion the U.S. ruling circles could not but agree in June 1951 to the proposal made by Jacob Malik, the Soviet representative in the United Nations and come to the truce talks.

But the U.S. imperialists tried to gain at the truce talks what they could not gain on the battlefields. Whenever their crafty tactics were frustrated before the just and fair stand taken by the Korean-Chinese side, they resorted to all sorts of malicious means such as blackmail and delaying tactics.

While sabotaging the armistice talks, the U.S. imperialists reinforced their military strength and equipment, and in 1951, launched the so-called "summer offensive" and the "autumn offensive" in succession. The determined men and officers of the Korean People's Army, living up to the order of their Supreme Commander Marshal Kim Il Sung who told them never to yield even an inch of land to the enemy, held their positions to the last. The enemy suffered a fatal blow and their aggressive scheme was foiled.

The shameless U.S. aggressors, in desperation, employed even chemical and bacteriological weapons in the Korean war.

However, in face of the firm stand of our side at the truce talks and the repeated blows inflicted by our pressing counter-attack, the U.S. imperialist aggressors suffered a miserable defeat militarily, politically and morally. In the end, they had to sign the Armistice Agreement on July 27, 1953.

## VICTORY IN THE WAR

The just Fatherland Liberation War ended in a historic victory for the Korean people after three years and one month of bloodshed.

The loss of manpower suffered by the enemy—killed, wounded or captured—reached 1,093,839, of which 397,543 were American soldiers. And a vast amount of military equipment was destroyed or captured by our army.

The U.S. imperialists spent 20 billion dollars and dumped 73 million tons of war materials in the Korean War. But they were driven back again to the place where they started the war. It was the first defeat they had ever suffered in their history of aggression.

What made it possible for the Korean people to win such a glorious victory in the just Fatherland Liberation War? It can be explained by the fact that the Workers' Party of Korea guided by all-conquering Marxism-Leninism stood in the van of the Korean people who rose in the war for freedom and independence of their fatherland. The people's democratic system established in the country, superior to the capitalist one, the united rear, mass heroism displayed by the Korean People's Army in





*Pyongyang city mass rally held on July 28, 1953  
in celebration of the victory of war*

close co-operation with the Chinese People's Volunteers, the internationalist assistance of the great family of socialism, especially the disinterested aid of the Soviet Union and the Chinese People's Republic, and support of the world peace-loving forces were also the factors which made it possible for us Korean people to win such glorious victory.

The ceasefire in Korea not only meant a great historic victory for the Korean people who defended the freedom and independence and the people's democratic system from the invasion of the Syngman Rhee clique and international reactionary forces headed by the United States, but also a victory for the peace forces of the world.

Experiences in the Korean War revealed that no force on earth can subjugate the people who, relying firmly upon the socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union, have risen up for their freedom and independence. At the same time the Korean War brought to light the true colours of the aggressive U.S. imperialists and shattered to pieces the myth of their "superiority". In fact the Korean people set an example through the brilliant victory in the anti-colonial national liberation struggle.

### GENEVA CONFERENCE

In order to transform the Armistice into a lasting peace, the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic have been making consistent efforts to convene a political conference as provided for in the Armistice Agreement. In spite of the sincere efforts of our side the political conference was not called owing to the stubborn opposition of the U.S. imperialists.

Then, at the initiative of the Soviet Government the Korean question was discussed at the Geneva Conference called in April 1954.

At the Conference our Government delegation put forward the most reasonable and fair proposals on "the reestablishment of Korea's national unity and the holding of all-Korea free elections."

But, the U.S. imperialists, who were set to oppose the just proposals of our side from the very outset, ultimately broke off the Conference unilaterally.

Though the Geneva Conference was wrecked by the U.S. imperialists, who have never abandoned their aggressive de-

signs on Korea, the Korean people, under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea, have never relaxed their struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

In his speech made on the occasion of the celebration of the tenth anniversary of the August 15 Liberation in 1955, Premier Kim Il Sung demanding the withdrawal of foreign troops proposed the convocation of a conference of the countries concerned. The Supreme People's Assembly and the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea repeatedly set forth constructive proposals for the realization of the peaceful unification of the country.

### **CONSISTENT POLICY OF THE WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION**

At the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea held in April 1956, the Workers' Party of Korea waging a consistent, untiring struggle for the peaceful unification of the fatherland adopted the historic Declaration, "For the peaceful unification of the fatherland" so as to accelerate the peaceful unification of the fatherland.

This Declaration mirrored correctly the unanimous desire of the Korean people. Analysing the new favourable internal and external situation the Declaration contained the most complete, concrete and practical proposals for the peaceful unification of the fatherland. It made clear once more the cardinal principles in the people's consistent struggle for the promotion of the peaceful unification of the fatherland. The gist of the Declaration follows:

1. The final solution of the Korean question must be achieved through the democratic expression of the will of the Kore-

an people themselves, and a united government of Korea must be established through the all-Korea free elections.

2. The Armistice attained in Korea should be converted into a lasting peace so as to bring about the peaceful unification of the country.

3. To enable the broad popular masses to take part and fully display their patriotic enthusiasm and positiveness in the struggle for peaceful unification, democratic principles must be observed in all spheres of social and political life in South Korea, and the livelihood of the popular masses must be stabilized and improved.

4. For the acceleration of the peaceful unification of the country, artificial barriers existing between North and South Korea must be removed and mutual contacts and negotiations between the people of both parts realized.

5. To promote the unification and independence of the country, the unity and solidarity of the whole nation must be strengthened to oppose American imperialism while patriotic forces of North and South Korea must unite to intensify the common struggle against the enemy of peaceful unification.

6. An international agreement should be reached for the preservation of peace in Korea and for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

The Declaration added the reasonable and practical measures for the realization of these proposals:

Signatories to the Armistice Agreement should abide strictly by it, all foreign troops should withdraw from Korea, no foreign interference whatever in the internal affairs of Korea should be tolerated, neither part of North and South Korea should be brought into any military blocs, all the unequal treaties concluded between the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities be made null and void, North and South

Korean authorities should declare before the Korean people and the people of the world not to resort to arms against each other, and reduce the army of North and South Korea to the minimum.

Moreover, people should be permitted to travel back and forth freely between North and South Korea and postal, economic and cultural exchange established for strengthening mutual understanding and confidence between North and South Korea through these contacts.

A permanent committee, composed of representatives of the national assemblies and governments or of political parties and social organizations of North and South Korea, should be set up to discuss in detail the question of the unification of Korea.

The Declaration went on to say that we will negotiate with anyone who is against U.S. imperialism and sincerely desires the unification of the country, irrespective of his or her political views, religious belief or property status.

In order to achieve the peaceful unification of the country all the patriotic, democratic forces should be united and all political parties of North and South Korea have unity in their action.

We firmly believe that, in spite of difference in political views, all the political parties and social organizations in North and South Korea would be able to find their way to form a united front to decide the country's destiny and the people's future if they co-operate with each other and make mutual concessions.

Representatives of the broad popular masses of workers, and peasants must participate in the coalition government to be formed on the democratic basis after the all-Korea free elections. Moreover, it should enforce a genuinely democratic ad-

ministration and the right and interests of the people of all walks of life should be guaranteed.

We hope that for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question, countries concerned with the Korean issue will call an international conference, in which many Asian countries including the government representatives of North and South Korea will take part, and that those countries will assume the obligations to ensure that there will be in Korea no provocation of war and that they will refrain from any act which menaces peace.

The proposals for the peaceful unification of the fatherland, adopted at the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea, has not only become the entire Korean people's programme for action but is drawing warm support from the peace-loving peoples of the world.

However, the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique opposing these just and reasonable proposals for a peaceful settlement of the Korean question are resorting to every machination to hamper realization of our proposals.

### **REDUCTION OF THE STRENGTH OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE'S ARMY**

In accordance with the Declaration of the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea and for promoting the peaceful unification of the country by relaxing tension between north and south, our Government took another step to reduce the strength of the Korean People's Army by 80,000 men by August 1956. And our Government solemnly declared that it would, as heretofore, not resort to force against South Korea, so long as the South Korean authorities do not take up arms first.

These measures showed concretely the real desire of our Party and Government for the peaceful unification of the country.

The Supreme People's Assembly expressed at the 12th Session held in November 1956 its desire to conduct talks between North and South Korea on the following questions for the peaceful unification of the country: withdrawal of all the foreign troops from Korea, a conference on the matter of reducing the strength of North and South Korean armies, and converting the armistice into lasting peace. And Ministers of our Government made time and again concrete and business-like proposals for facilitating economic and postal exchange and free movement of civilians between North and South Korea.

Moreover, proceeding from compatriotic love, the Red Cross Society of the Republic proposed in May 1957 to offer 100,000 *suk* of rice and goods to aid the foodless peasants in South Korea. Particularly, Premier Kim Il Sung stressed in his reports at the First Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly held in September 1957 and at the December 1957 Enlarged Plenum of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea that all the foreign troops should withdraw from Korea and the number of the North and South Korean armies should be reduced to 100,000 or less respectively. Premier Kim Il Sung proposed that economic and cultural exchange be promoted between North and South Korea and held that free activities of South Korean political parties and social organizations be ensured in North Korea, and at the same time in South Korea, too, free activities of all political parties and social organizations be guaranteed.

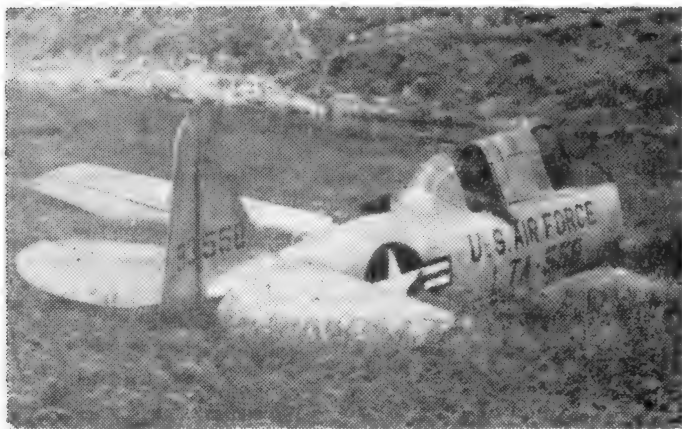
However, the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique have not only stubbornly rejected these just proposals, but are frenziedly aggravating tension in Korea, threatening to abrogate the Armistice Agreement.

## FLAGRANT U.S. VIOLATIONS OF ARMISTICE AGREEMENT

The U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique, ignoring the historical lesson of the ignominious defeat they suffered in the Korean war and in total disregard of the unanimous desire of the Korean people, and the peace-loving peoples the world over, are still doggedly clinging to their illusion that they can "settle" the Korean question through war.

In gross violation of the Armistice Agreement, the U.S. imperialists concluded the "ROK-U.S. Mutual Defence Pact"

*This U.S. military plane which was on an illegal reconnaissance mission over the area north of the military demarcation line was shot down by our side  
(August 1955)*





with the Syngman Rhee clique, expanded their military bases in South Korea, increased after the cessation of hostilities the puppet South Korean army to 21 divisions and formed 10 new reserve divisions with reinforced equipment.

The U.S. imperialists unilaterally suspended the lawful activities of the Neutral Nations Inspection Teams in South Korea, arbitrarily abrogated in June 1957, Paragraph 13-d of the Korean Armistice Agreement which forbids the illegal introduction of combat weapons, and moved the "United Nations Command" to Seoul. The U.S. imperialists are continuing their hostile activities north of the military demarcation line and dispatching armed agents across the line. The number of such cases during the period from the ceasefire to February 1959 alone reached 966, and the illegal intrusions by U.S. planes, 1,721.

Our side, while protesting against and condemning such provocative acts, has always strictly observed the Armistice Agreement and striven to convert the armistice into lasting peace.

## **NEW MEASURES FOR PEACEFUL UNIFICATION**

To open a new phase for the peaceful settlement of the Korean question, the Government of the Republic issued in accordance with the basic line of the Workers' Party of Korea a statement on February 5, 1958. The statement contained the most practical and reasonable proposals on the withdrawal of all foreign troops, holding of all-Korea free elections, trade between north and south, and the reduction of the North and South Korean armies to the minimum. The Government of the People's Republic of China, in complete agreement with our Government's stand, issued a statement on February 7, which was followed by the subsequent joint statement of the Korean and

Chinese Governments of February 19. The C.P.V. Headquarters, in compliance with the proposals presented in these statements, decided to withdraw from Korea and completed its withdrawal by October 26, 1958.

Today, the U.S. army and some of the troops of its satellite countries that occupy South Korea are the sole foreign troops remaining in Korea.

Though there is no ground for the U.S. imperialists to station their army in South Korea, they continue to do so hanging on to their aggressive design.

The Government of the Republic, proceeding from compatriotic consideration, proposed in August 1958 to send 150,000 suk of rice, 5 million metres of fabrics, 10,000 tons of marine

*The Chinese People's Volunteers withdrawing  
from Korea (1958)*





*People shouting "U.S. troops, get out of Korea immediately!" at a mass rally in Pyongyang*

products, and 4 million pairs of shoes as relief goods to the millions of unemployed, semi-unemployed and vagrant orphans in South Korea, take over and bring up the vagrant orphans and grant stipends to the South Korean students.

The Syngman Rhee clique with the connivance of the U.S. imperialists schemed up another criminal plot to "emigrate" forcibly as life-time slaves, in this enlightened 20th century, the unemployed of South Korea to Latin American countries.

Strongly condemning this naked traitorous scheme on the part of the Syngman Rheeites, our Government in its statement of January 1959 demanded that the displaced persons and un-

employed of South Korea be turned over to the northern part of the Republic. And the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly enacted a Decree stipulating that those coming over to the northern part of the Republic from South Korea will be guaranteed stabilized life, employment and education.

All these measures taken by our Government enjoy full support from the people of the Soviet Union and the peace-loving peoples of the world.

But the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique keep up their clamour for a new war.

All this clearly proves to the whole world that it is none other than the U.S. imperialists who are hindering the peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

"U.S. imperialists, hand off Korea immediately!"— the cry is ringing ever louder not only in Korea, but throughout the whole world.

## ACUTE CRISIS OF SYNGMAN RHEE REGIME

Today South Korea is facing complete bankruptcy in all fields—political, economic and cultural. National industry has been reduced to general ruin because of the flooding of the U.S. surplus goods dumped under the label of "aid." And some 6,600,000 unemployed and semi-unemployed are roaming about the streets. South Korea, once the granary of Korea, has been reduced to a grain-deficient area under the plundering policy of the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique. Almost half of the total peasant households are without provisions. Yet the Syngman Rhee clique, in disregard of the general economic bankruptcy, have allocated some 70 per cent of their budget for

the military and police purposes, bleeding the people white. Forsaken by the people, they are raising war clamour and tightening their fascist, military, police and terrorist rule in the vain hope of postponing their doom.

The U.S. troops, the 20th century barbarians, are committing with impunity atrocities of murders, rape, and pillage in South Korea.

It is natural that such state of affairs is evoking further anti-American, anti-Syngman Rhee sentiments among the South Korean people, driving the Syngman Rhee regime into a very acute crisis.

The political fight between the government and opposition parties for power is becoming more acute driving the Syngman Rhee clique into further isolation.

In their desperate attempt to swim out of this crisis, the Syngman Rhee clique are intensifying their fascist rule. They are punishing those who even speak about the peaceful unification.

They have gone so far as to pass in December 1958 the notorious fascist law, the revised "State Security Law." In order to pass this "Law" at the "national assembly," Syngman Rhee locked up the opposition deputies in the dining room of the capitol. The "State Security Law" gives the courts the right to punish people solely on whatever "evidence" the police themselves choose to present. And the police resort to intimidation and cruel torture which surpass by far the Nazi Gestapo.

However, all these measures, meeting with stronger resistance and protest put up by the South Korean people, have not helped the tottering Syngman Rhee regime, but aggravated the conflict between the government and opposition parties.



*Handbills denouncing the U.S. imperialists and Syngman Rhee clique are scattered in 'Seoul*

The U.S. imperialists are doing their utmost to postpone the end of the Syngman Rhee clique, whose days are numbered, by suppressing at the point of bayonet the anti-American, anti-Syngman Rhee movement and are running amuck to strengthen their missile bases in South Korea in pursuit of their policy of a new war.

All of this shows the very nature of the colonial and war policy pursued by the U.S. imperialists who have been occupying South Korea for the past 14 years.

No longer can such state of affairs be tolerated. It is a lofty national task facing every Korean to make the U.S. imperialists withdraw from Korea and attain through peaceful

means the unification and independence of the fatherland by themselves in accordance with their wishes.

The Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic are energetically unfolding a struggle to achieve this task, relying on the mighty force of the ever growing democratic base in the Republic.

The South Korean people, being encouraged by the brilliant achievements scored by the people in the north in their socialist construction, are waging a more tenacious anti-American, anti-Syngman Rhee struggle to realize the measures put forward by the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic for the peaceful unification of the country. No matter what desperate schemes the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique may brew, the Korean people will certainly attain the peaceful unification of the country.





# KOREA'S FOREIGN RELATIONS

## BASIS OF FOREIGN POLICY

The most important task of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea in its foreign policy is to strengthen the international friendship and solidarity with the Soviet Union, People's Republic of China and the other People's Democracies.

Through their life and death struggle, the Korean people have experienced the immense might of the proletarian internationalism.

The Korean people maintain sharp vigilance against every scheme of the imperialists to undermine the solidarity between the socialist countries and, smashing the imperialists' reactionary propaganda, regard the fidelity to internationalism as their sacred duty.

Adhering to the Leninist principle of peaceful co-existence of the countries with different social systems, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is exerting every effort to establish friendly relations with all countries.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea strives to establish friendly relations with all countries opposing colonialism



*The Party and Government Delegates led by  
Premier Kim Il Sung who participated in the  
Twenty-first Congress of the Communist Party  
of the Soviet Union in 1959, visiting the  
Lenin Mausoleum*

and fighting for national independence and peace, strengthen the solidarity with Asian and African countries and to promote, on the basis of mutual benefit, economic and cultural relations with them.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea wants peace at all times, and opposes war.

Firmly adhering to its basic foreign policy for peace and friendship among nations, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is tirelessly striving for the further strengthening of the solidarity with the peace-loving peoples the world over and the maintenance of durable peace in the Far East and the world.

By smashing the schemes of the U. S. imperialists and the traitorous Syngman Rhee clique to aggravate tension in Korea and fighting against enemy's provocative acts, the Korean people are making a contribution to the preservation of peace in Asia and the world.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea fully supports the peaceful proposals put forward by the governments of the Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries for the disarmament of Big Powers and the prohibition of the manufacture, employment and tests of nuclear weapons, and the establishment of atom-free zones in the East and West, and is working for their realization.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS**

Soviet Union	October 12, 1948
Mongolia	October 15, 1948
Poland	October 16, 1948
Czechoslovakia	October 21, 1948
Rumania	November 3, 1948
Hungary	November 11, 1948
Bulgaria	November 29, 1948

Albania	May	17, 1949
People's Republic of China	October	6, 1949
German Democratic Republic	November	7, 1949
Democratic Republic of Viet-nam	January	31, 1950

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea exchanges Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary with these countries.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea, which is tied with the fraternal countries on the principle of proletarian internationalism, concluded an "Agreement on Economic and Cultural Co-operation" with the Soviet Union on March 17, 1949, and the "Agreement on Economic and Cultural Co-operation" with the People's Republic of China on November 23, 1953. It has also concluded various economic, technical and cultural agreements with the fraternal countries.

Korea has concluded trade agreements with India, Indonesia, Burma, the United Arab Republic and Iraq, and cultural agreements with the United Arab Republic and Iraq.

Korean foreign trading companies have concluded trade agreements with private traders of Japan, Britain and other capitalist countries.

## FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH SOCIALIST COUNTRIES

Our friendly relations with the socialist countries have grown stronger, and mutual contacts have become more frequent.

In the period after the Korean war, Korean Government delegations led by Premier Kim Il Sung paid visits to the Soviet Union, China, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania, Mongolia, and Viet-nam,

while Korea has played host to the Delegation of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., the government delegations of China, Viet-nam, Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Albania, Mongolia, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Hungary. These visits have made tremendous contributions to strengthening the brotherly relations, friendship and solidarity between the countries in the big community of socialism.

Economic interflow with the fraternal countries has further grown and developed, and the exchanges of experiences in socialist construction are being carried on briskly.

Exchanges with the fraternal countries of the experiences in science and technology, joint research, and cultural interchanges covering the press, radio, literature, art and sports, are also being carried on widely.

In further strengthening the political, economic and cultural relations with other socialist countries, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea is guided by the basic stand for unity and solidarity of the socialist forces headed by the Soviet Union.

## **RELATIONS WITH ASIAN AND AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea fully subscribes to the five principles of peaceful co-existence and to the Declaration of the Bandung Conference.

The Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea issued statements against the armed invasion of the Anglo-French imperialists on Egypt, against the U.S. imperialists' armed intervention in Lebanon and their scheme for interfering in the internal affairs of Iraq and Syria, and gave

encouragement to the Arab peoples in their just struggle against the U.S. imperialists, the common enemy. The Korean people resolutely denounced the aggressive schemes of the U.S. imperialists against Indonesia. The Korean people support and encourage the African peoples who are fighting for freedom and national independence.

Our economic and cultural relations with the Asian and African countries have grown stronger and the visits of our delegations to these countries and the visits to Korea of the public figures of these countries have become more frequent.

With a view to making contribution to the consolidation of peace in Asia, Korea is exerting its sincere effort to normalize its relations with Japan, and strengthen the friendly relations with the Japanese people.

## PEACE MOVEMENT

The peace-loving Korean people have taken an active part in the world peace movement since their liberation.

Dispatching their delegates to various international meetings—World Peace Congress, Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions, Congress of the World Federation of Democratic Youth and the International Union of Students, World Festival of Youth and Students, Congress of the Women's International Democratic Federation and the Congress of the International Organization of Journalists—and through the permanent bodies of these organizations, the Korean people have striven for the consolidation of peace, while strengthening the friendship and solidarity with the peace-loving peoples.

The Korean people have consistently strengthened, as part

of peace movement, the solidarity with the Asian and African people. Particularly, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference held in Cairo in 1957 and the Afro-Asian Writers' Conference held in Tashkent in 1958 served to further strengthen and promote the mutual understanding, friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and the peoples of the Asian and African countries.

More and more people from Asian and African countries and also from the Western countries are visiting Korea.

While further broadening contacts with the people of other lands, the Korean people are striving to strengthen the international solidarity with the working class and the oppressed peoples in all countries, and resolutely fight against the enemy's fascist oppression of the labour movement and national liberation movement and against its persecution of peace fighters.

## RELATIONS WITH U.N.

Subjected to pressure by the United States, the United Nations Organization has continuously taken an unfair attitude toward our country.

Manipulating their "voting machines" in the U.N., the U.S. imperialists have made that organization serve their aim of meddling in the internal affairs of Korea.

The U.S. imperialists attempted to legalize under the cloak of the U.N. the establishment of their puppet government in South Korea and their aggression against Korea, and abused the name of the U.N. in signing the Korean Armistice Agreement as a belligerent.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has consistently

and resolutely protested against the acts of the U.N. violating its Charter under the pressure of the U.S. imperialists—the flagrant interference in the internal affairs of Korea and the unfair, unilateral measures.

Whenever the United Nations Organization, under the pressure of the U.S. imperialists and due to their intrigues, takes up the Korean question the solution of which must be left to the will of the Korean people, the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea has strongly demanded that the delegates of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea must be invited to the discussion, and announced it would not recognize any resolution adopted in the absence of the delegates of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. Nevertheless, the U.S. imperialists, by setting their "voting machines" in the U.N. going, have taken an unfair stand with regard to the Korean question.

Their unjust stand has met with the opposition not only from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Lately the Asian and African countries and certain Western countries have raised louder their voices against the unfair stand of the U.S. imperialists.

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea has consistently demanded that the U.N. should be true to its Charter and become the genuine organization for international co-operation.





## STATE SYSTEM

### THE CHARACTER OF STATE POWER

The Democratic People's Republic of Korea is a state of people's democracy. The D.P.R.K. has inherited the patriotic, revolutionary tradition of the Korean people and is the embodiment of the unanimous desire of the Korean nation for freedom and independence.

The Constitution adopted at the First Session of the Supreme People's Assembly in September 1948 was a legislative embodiment of the Korean people's great revolutionary gains achieved in the northern part of the Republic and is an inspiration to the people in South Korea in their struggle.

The state power of our country belongs to the people, and the people exercise their power through organs of state power.

Organs of state power at all levels from the people's assembly to the Supreme People's Assembly are elected by the free will of the people. The elections are conducted on the principle of universal, equal and direct suffrage by secret ballot.

All citizens of the D.P.R.K. who have reached the age of 18, irrespective of sex, nationality, social origin and status, religious belief, length of residence, property status or education, have the right to elect and be elected.

The people's assemblies at all levels directly organize their respective executive organs and state organs, courts included,

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← *Building of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly*

empowering them with due rights, and direct and supervise their activities.

All power organs are organized on the principle of democratic centralism.

The state and social life of the D.P.R.K. is guided by the Workers' Party of Korea—the leading and guiding force of the Korean people. All power organs of the D.P.R.K. execute the line and policies of the Workers' Party of Korea and exercise the function of proletarian dictatorship relying on the worker-peasant alliance led by the working class.

The state power, under the guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea and with the active participation of revolutionary forces of the working masses, is directing socialist construction to further strengthen the democratic base in the northern part of the Republic, a material guarantee for the implementation of the supreme task confronting the Korean people—the peaceful unification of the country.

The economic system reflected in the Constitution of the D.P.R.K. is the material basis of the people's power organs.

## THE HIGHEST ORGAN OF STATE POWER

The highest organ of state power in the D.P.R.K. is the Supreme People's Assembly. The Supreme People's Assembly is the only legislative organ in the D.P.R.K.

Deputies to the Supreme People's Assembly are elected at the ratio of one for every 50,000 population throughout the country for a term of four years. Electors may recall their deputies before the expiration of the term of office if the latter betray the former's confidence.

The Second Supreme People's Assembly elected in 1957 is

composed of 215 deputies in total—84 from workers, 68 from peasants, 60 from office workers and intellectuals and 3 from enterprisers and merchants. (27 women are among the deputies.)

The Supreme People's Assembly exercises the supreme state power.

The Supreme People's Assembly meets twice a year and extraordinary sessions can be called for, if need be.

The law passed by the Supreme People's Assembly is published within a period not exceeding five days.

The Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly elected by the Supreme People's Assembly is the highest organ of state power when the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session and performs ordinary functions of the supreme power. The

*Election day is as joyous as a holiday*



Presidium issues decrees to carry out its functions. It is responsible to the Supreme People's Assembly for its activities and is under its authority.

## **THE CABINET**

The Cabinet is the highest executive organ of state power and the state administrative organ.

The Cabinet is organized by the Supreme People's Assembly and is composed of a Premier, Vice-Premiers, Ministers, and Chairmen of the various Committees.

The continuation of Comrade Kim Il Sung, the beloved leader of the Korean people, in premiership was decided by the unanimous recommendation of the entire deputies to the First Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly.

The Cabinet can promulgate decisions and orders on the basis of the Constitution, laws and decrees, and directs and inspects their execution.

The Cabinet is subordinate to the Supreme People's Assembly and is responsible to the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly when the Supreme People's Assembly is not in session.

## **LOCAL POWER ORGANS**

Local power organs are the people's assemblies of provinces, cities, counties (or districts), ri (or township and workers' settlement) organized in accordance with administrative divisions.

The local people's assemblies at all levels are composed of

deputies directly elected by the people on a democratic electoral principle.

The provincial people's assemblies are elected for a term of four years and the people's assemblies of cities, counties (or districts) and ri (or township and workers' settlement) for a term of two years.

The elections to the people's assemblies of cities, counties (or districts) and ri (or township and workers' settlement) held on February 28, 1959 were the first elections after the decisive victory of socialism in the northern part of the Republic. The elections were participated in by 99.99 per cent of the entire electors and 99.99 per cent of them cast their votes in favour of the candidates. The elections vividly demonstrated the boundless confidence of the people in the Party and the Government, who are rallied firmly around them, marching along the bright road of a new life towards socialism-communism.

The local people's assemblies may adopt decisions to carry out in their respective areas so long as they are not in contravention of laws, decrees, and decisions of the Cabinet and of organs of a higher level.

The local people's committees at all levels are the executive organs of the people's assemblies at corresponding levels and the administrative organs of the state.

The local people's committees at all levels elected by the people's assemblies at corresponding levels are responsible in their activities to the people's assemblies at corresponding levels and to the executive organs at higher levels and are subordinate to them.

## **COURTS AND PROCURATOR'S OFFICE**

In the D.P.R.K., cases are tried by the Supreme Court, the

courts of provinces, cities, counties (or districts), and special courts.

The judges of the courts are elected at the corresponding power organs, and people's assessors are elected at the general meeting of factory and office workers, of co-op members, or of residents. Judges and people's assessors are dismissed only by the recall of the organs which elected them.

Procurator's organs are the Supreme Procurator's Office, procurator's offices of provinces and procurator's offices of cities and counties (or districts).

The head of procurator's office is the Procurator-General appointed by the Supreme People's Assembly, and procurators at all levels are appointed by the Procurator-General.

## **FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF CITIZENS**

All citizens of the D.P.R.K., irrespective of sex, nationality, religious belief, profession, property status or education, have equal rights in all domains of state life.

All citizens (including the servicemen of the Korean People's Army) who have reached the age of 18 have the right to elect and to be elected.

Citizens enjoy freedom of speech, the press, association, mass meeting and demonstration.

Citizens have freedom of religious belief and of conducting religious services.

Citizens are guaranteed inviolability of the person and homes and the privacy of correspondence and have the right to submit petitions and make complaints to the organs of state power.

Citizens have the right to work, right to equal pay for equal work, right to rest and the right to education.

Citizens who are entitled to the benefit of social insurance have the right to medical service and material assistance in old age and in case of sickness or disability.

Citizens have the freedom to engage in scientific and artistic pursuits, and copy-right and patent right of inventions are protected by law.

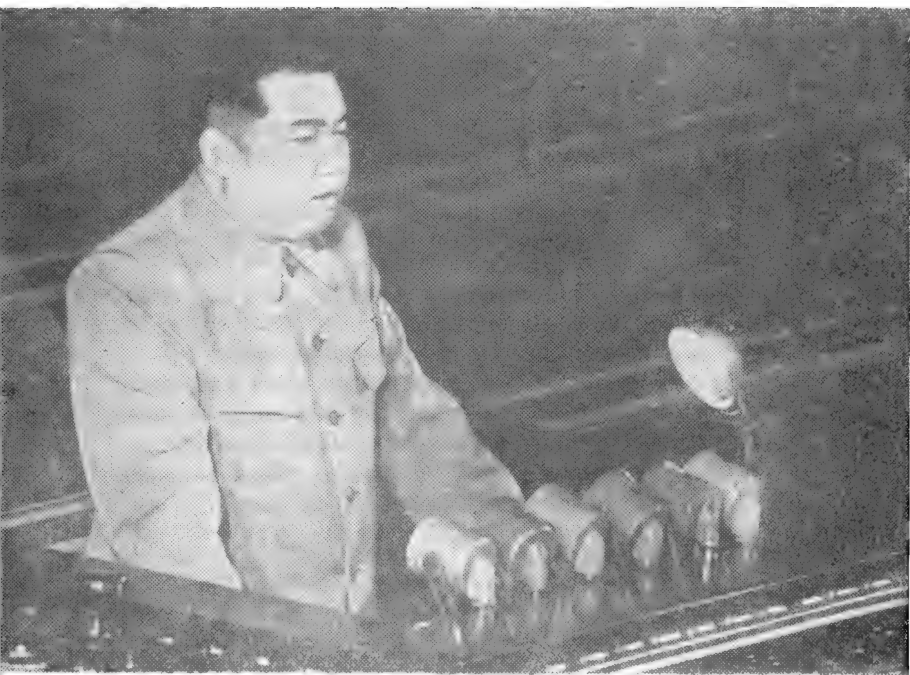
Women are accorded with equal rights with men in all spheres of state and social life.

The state protects especially mothers and children.

Marriage and family life are under the protection of the state, and the duties of parents toward the child born out of wedlock are the same as toward the child born in wedlock.

It is the duty of every citizen to abide by the Constitution and the law, defend the fatherland and to pay taxes.

It is the duty of every citizen to work.



*Comrade Kim Il Sung, Chairman of the Party Central Committee, making a report at the Third Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea (1956)*

## **POLITICAL PARTIES AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

### **THE WORKERS' PARTY OF KOREA**

The Workers' Party of Korea is an organized force standing in the van of the working masses of our country—the toiling



peasantry and working intellectuals with the working class as the nucleus. It is the mass party representing the interests of the Korean nation and the entire working people of Korea.

Guided by the theory of Marxism-Leninism in its activities, the Workers' Party of Korea has inherited the revolutionary tradition of the Korean people who fought against the Japanese and other colonialists and for national independence and liberation.

The immediate aim of the Workers' Party of Korea lies in carrying out the tasks of anti-imperialist, anti-feudal democratic revolution on a nation-wide scale, and its ultimate aim is to build communist society.

The Workers' Party of Korea is working for the attainment of complete national independence and the promotion of the unification of the country by successfully building socialism in the northern part of our country and strengthening the democratic base politically and economically.

And the Workers' Party of Korea is struggling for the consolidation of the internationalist solidarity with the peoples of the great Soviet Union and other socialist countries as well as with the working people of all countries and for a lasting peace in Asia and the world.

Today the Workers' Party of Korea with a membership of more than one million is playing a leading and directing role in all domains of state and social life of the country. The Party is being consolidated still further and is developing with every passing day into a more powerful mass political party with the entire Party members and people rallied firmly around its Central Committee headed by Comrade Kim Il Sung.

That the Workers' Party of Korea has ensured the unity of thought, will and action and it has been tempered and consolidated into the iron ranks was possible thanks to the fact that the Party has as its leading core the staunch Communists led by

Comrade Kim Il Sung who established the revolutionary tradition of our country through a long-drawn revolutionary struggle and have developed it. And it was possible thanks to the correctness of the policies the Party put forward in each stage of revolution, to its wise leadership and to the correct observance of the Leninist principle of Party life based upon the democratic centralism and revolutionary discipline.

In this respect mention should be made of the fact that the Party Central Committee relying on the working class which has grown after the liberation eliminated anti-Party, anti-revolutionary sectarian elements from the ranks of the Party with a result that the unity and solidarity of the Party has been strengthened still further.

The road traversed by the Workers' Party of Korea shows that even under the difficult situation at home and abroad, the Party, the vanguard of the Korean working class, firmly upheld Marxist-Leninist principles, overcame all the difficulties and trial with the persistent revolutionary sweep and triumphantly carried out the revolutionary tasks by rallying the working class and entire toiling masses still more closely around itself.

In its work for the organizational and ideological consolidation of the Party, the Workers' Party of Korea regards the democratic centralism, criticism and self-criticism, especially criticism from below and collective discussion as the cardinal principles of organization and leadership.

The Party has educated the members and working people in the spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism waging a struggle against capitalist ideas and outmoded ideas of every description.

Particularly, the Workers' Party of Korea has consistently supported the Soviet Union, the centre of the international labour movement, and always urges the Korean people to learn

from the Soviet Union, upholding the principle of strengthening the friendship and unity with the Soviet people.

An organization of the Workers' Party of Korea is formed on a regional or industrial division, and the highest body of the whole Party is the Party Congress.

## **THE UNITED DEMOCRATIC FATHERLAND FRONT**

The United Democratic Fatherland Front is the united national front organization under the leadership of the working class, embracing all the revolutionary forces of North and South Korea with the worker-peasant alliance as its basis.

The most important task this organization is facing at present is to liberate South Korea from the colonial rule of the U.S. imperialists, and realize the peaceful unification and independence of the country, as well as to strengthen the united front, under the leadership of the Workers' Party of Korea.

This organization also works for the socialist construction in the northern part of the Republic and strives to safeguard world peace, particularly peace in Asia.

72 political parties and social organizations, including the Workers' Party, the North Korean Democratic Party, the North Korean Chundogyo Chungwoo Party, the General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea, the Korean Democratic Youth League, and so forth, are embraced in this organization.

## **SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS**

The main social organizations in our country are as follows:  
General Federation of Trade Unions of Korea (under which

there are 11 industrial trade unions), Korean Democratic Youth League, Korean Democratic Women's Union, Korean Peasants' Union, North Korean Christians' Federation, Korean Buddhists' Federation, Korean Writers' Union, Korean Composers' Union, Korean Artists' Union, Korean Architects' Union, Korean Journalists' Union, The Korean Society for Historical Science, Korean Esperanto Society, The Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, The Korean Society for Giving Aid to Defend Fatherland, Korean National Peace Committee, Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Committee, Korean-Soviet Friendship Society, Korean-Chinese Friendship Society, Korean-Indian Friendship Society, Korean-Indonesian Friendship Society, Korean-French Friendship Society, The Korean Society for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries.



*Kim Chaik Iron Works being constructed*



# **THE NATIONAL ECONOMY**

## **GENERAL**

### **Before Liberation**

The Japanese imperialists who ruled Korea for 36 years as their colony kept Korea in the state of a backward agrarian country, completely subjugating Korean economy to that of Japan. To the Japanese imperialists Korea was a source of food and raw materials and at the same time a market for their commodities.

The Japanese imperialists built factories and plants only to serve their purpose of plundering Korea's raw materials and turning out semi-finished goods. They also built munitions industries with a view to invading the Asian mainland. Most of machines, equipment and light industrial goods needed in Korea were brought in from Japan. Moreover, the Japanese imperialists saw to it that national capital did not increase, that the technical level remained in a backward state and that only a few Korean technicians trained.

Onesidedness prevailed in the distribution of industry, too. The Japanese imperialists built most of major factories and enterprises along the east and west coastal areas for the convenience of delivering to Japan raw materials and semi-finished goods from Korea, causing irrational distributions of

her industry. Light industry was concentrated in South Korea, a cereal producing area, and heavy industry in North Korea.

Lack of balance existed not only between industry and agriculture but between various branches of agriculture itself, the backbone of the colonial Korean economy, due to the Japanese policy of plundering rice from Korea, for instance between crop farming and animal husbandry, between grain production and industrial crop production.

Owing to the feudal landownership which lasted until the day of the country's liberation, the scale of farming was very small and the level of agricultural production and technique was very low.

Such being the case, until liberation Korean economy was of a backward agrarian, colonial type, and characterised by its extreme onesidedness and deformity.

### **National Economy in the Period of Peaceful Construction after Liberation**

The Korean people were liberated on August 15, 1945, from the yoke of Japanese imperialism by the great Soviet Army. The Korean people began to develop a self-supporting national economy.

However, the industrial establishments in Korea, in addition to the legacy of severe colonial onesidedness and deformity, had suffered severe damage by the destruction inflicted by the Japanese imperialists at the time of their surrender.

There was a shortage of technical cadres, raw materials and equipment. Inexperience in administration was felt. What

was still worse, owing to the colonial policy of the U.S. imperialists who occupied South Korea, economic relations between the North and South were suspended, which made it all the more difficult for us to build a self-supporting national economy.

However, in North Korea where the power belongs to the people, we overcame all these difficulties and created political and economic foundations for developing the national economy in a planned way. With the nationalization of major industries, the state-run industry, which accounted for 72.4 per cent of the entire North Korean industry, began to play a leading role in the national economy, while in agriculture the peasants have become masters of the land as a result of liquidation of landlords under land reform. Commencing with 1947, we embarked upon the road of developing the national economy in a planned way.

The entire working people led by the working class overfulfilled, with the disinterested economic and technical assistance of the Soviet people, their two one-year national economic plans for 1947 and 1948. And the first year's assignments under the two-year national economic plan for 1949-1950, were successfully carried out.

The gross industrial output in 1949, the year before the outbreak of war, grew 3.4-fold that in 1946, the year immediately following the liberation. The output of the means of production increased 3.8-fold and that of consumer goods 2.9-fold. Particularly with the establishment of the machine-building industry, non-existent in the pre-liberation days, and the expansion of the textile industry, colonial onesidedness was eliminated to a considerable extent.

In agriculture, too, in 1948, 2,808,000 tons of grain were harvested surpassing by 10.4 per cent the peak year level of

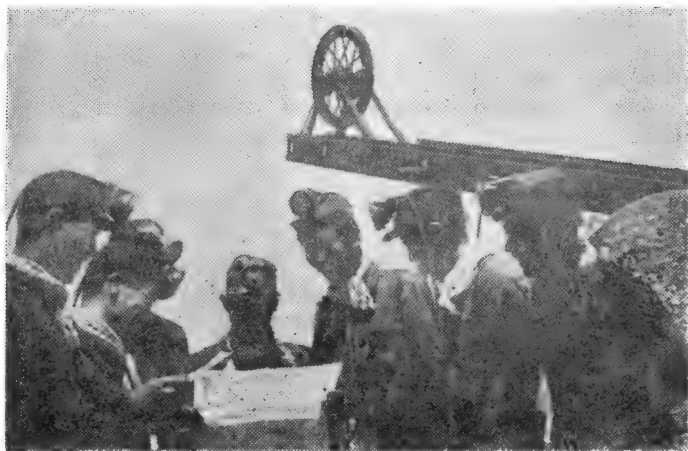


1939 under the Japanese rule. As a result the once provision-deficient North Korea became a land with a surplus in food.

Along with the rehabilitation and development of the national economy, the socialist economic sector was expanded steadily.

Already in 1949, the proportion shared by the socialist economic sector in industry had reached 90.7 per cent. Thanks to the establishment of state agricultural and livestock farms, farm machine-hire stations, and to the intensive planned guidance given to the rural economy, the socialist sector began to grow in the countryside. Moreover, the socialist sector

*First shock production brigade born in 1946 during  
the peaceful construction period (at the Sadong  
Coal-mine)*



occupied 56.5 per cent in the total amount of retail commodity circulation.

### War-time Economy

When the Korean war was started by the U.S. imperialists and the Syngman Rhee clique, all branches of the national economy were put on a war-time footing. Many new industrial enterprises were established and many local industries and producers' co-operatives were expanded to turn out more daily necessities.

The industrial output, which was temporarily reduced during the period of 1950-51 due to the enemy's barbarous destruction and the evacuation of industrial facilities, began to rise again from 1952.

The industrial output value in 1953 increased roughly 1.4-fold that in 1951. Also grain farming to meet the war-time needs was successfully carried out thanks to the huge material and technical assistance extended by the Government and the labour assistance pooled on a nation-wide scale. As a result, despite the damage done by the enemy's indiscriminate bombing and all difficulties, the yield of rice in 1953 increased by 31.4 per cent over 1951.

Of particular importance in the development of agriculture in the war time was the growth of the socialist economic sector. Not only the state agricultural and livestock farms and farm machine-hire stations increased and were strengthened to make them play a vanguard role in the socialist transformation of agriculture, but also forms of collective labour such as "labour-exchange-teams" and "ox-share-teams"

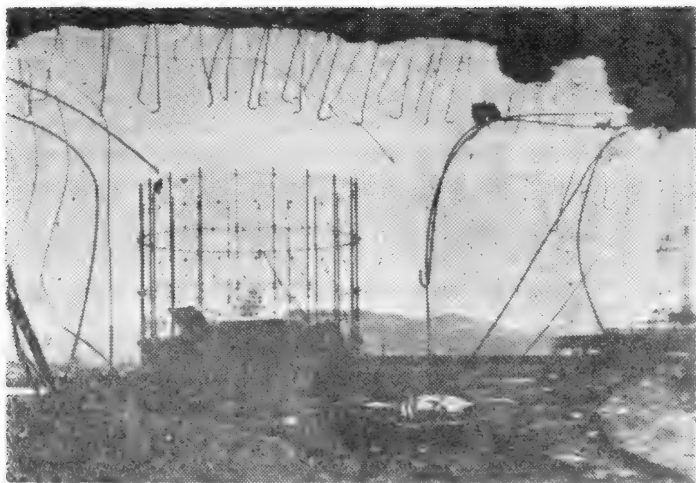
spread far and wide among the peasants, giving birth to the new bud of co-operatives.

Mention should be made of the fact that our war-time economy, not limiting itself to securing the imminent wartime needs, made a series of preparatory work for the rehabilitation of the national economy in the post-war years. Large-scale machine-building, factories and daily necessities producing factories were newly built, blue-prints for capital construction were drawn up and technicians, who would be required in great numbers in the post-war rehabilitation and construction, were trained.

Even under the circumstances of the severe war, our

*Peasants weeding the paddy-fields braving the barbarous  
U.S. bombing*





*The war-destroyed Kim Chaik Iron Works*

national economy scored great successes thanks to the correct policy and wise guidance of the Workers' Party of Korea and the Government of the Republic.

However, during the three years of the severe war (particularly in the period of our temporary retreat in 1950), our national economy suffered greatly from the enemy's barbarous destruction and unspeakable pillage which have no parallel in the annals of the war history.

Some 8,700 buildings of factories and enterprises were destroyed in the North, thereby reducing the gross industrial output in 1953 to 64 per cent of the 1949 level. 370,000 jungbo

of farm land were damaged by indiscriminate bombing, with the result that the grain output in 1953 dropped to 88 per cent of 1949.

The northern part of the Republic was turned into heaps of debris. More than 600,000 houses with a total floor space of 28 million square metres, more than 5,000 schools, 1,000 hospitals and clinics, 260 theatres and cinemas, and thousands of cultural and welfare establishments were burned to the ground. Even according to incomplete data the damage our national economy suffered in the war was 420,000 million won (in old currency).

### **The Post-war Three-Year Plan**

With the conclusion of the armistice, our country set about reconstruction of the national economy along the general line put forth by the Workers' Party of Korea for giving priority development of heavy industry along with speedy progress of light industry and agriculture.

As the reconstruction work started in the northern part of the Republic, our fraternal countries gave us enormous assistance. The Soviet Union sent us 1,000 million rubles, People's China 800 million yuan, and the other People's Democracies also gave us huge material and technical assistance. All these aids in the form of gifts, together with our internal resources, served as a material guarantee for speedy reconstruction of the national economy.

The Three-Year Plan for the Post-War Reconstruction and Development of the National Economy (1954-56) started on the basis of the successes achieved in the preparatory work.

The plan set as its aim the attainment of the prewar level in the industrial and agricultural output and the building of a solid economic foundation for improving the people's living deteriorated by the war. In the course of the execution of the plan, the Party and the Government, surmounting every hardship and difficulty, improved their leadership in all branches of the national economy. Every effort was made to mobilize to the maximum the internal resources and utilize most effectively the economic and technical assistance rendered by the Soviet Union and other fraternal countries.

The entire working people aflame with patriotic ardour fulfilled the Three-Year Plan 4 months ahead of schedule through a mass drive for increased production. By the end of 1956 the gross industrial output value increased 2.8-fold that in 1953, or

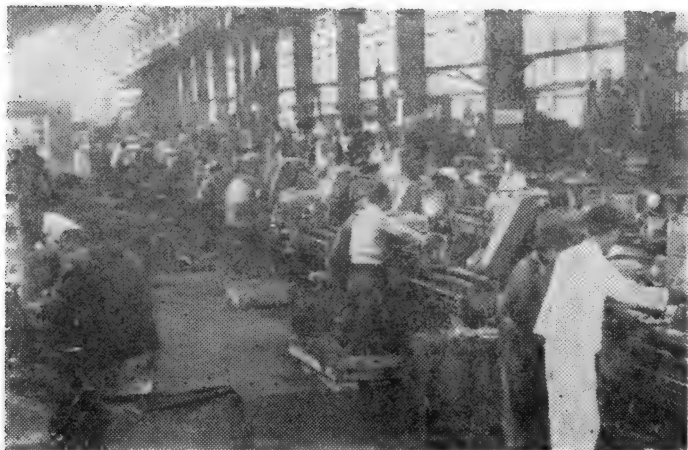
*Pyongyang citizens are all out to reconstruct their city right after the truce (August 1953)*



1.8-fold that in the pre-war year of 1949. During the Three-Year Plan period, the output of the means of production grew 4-fold and that of consumer goods 2.1-fold. 320 large and medium industrial enterprises were restored or newly built. The colonial onesidedness in industry was eliminated to a large extent and many industrial branches not only regained the pre-war level but were also equipped with up-to-date technique.

In agriculture, too, the per jungbo yield of crops and the land utilization rate were raised thanks to the large-scale irrigation and river harnessing projects undertaken during this period, including the Pyongnam Irrigation System, which put 40,000 jungbo of land under irrigation. Also, the expansion of farm machine-hire stations, supply of advanced farm machines and

*The Bookjoong Machine-building Factory reconstructed in the Three-Year Plan period (1954-1956)*



large quantities of chemical fertilizers, and the extensive introduction of advanced farming methods were important factors in raising the per jungbo yield. In 1956 the grain output surpassed by 8 per cent the per-war peak level. The co-operative movement started after the truce enjoyed full support of the peasants and 80.9 per cent of the total peasant households had joined the co-operatives by the end of 1956.

Parallel with the all-round upswing in the production in all branches of the national economy, the people's living standard rapidly improved. Socialist relations of production triumphed in the towns and the countryside and the self-supporting foundation for further developing the national economy was built in the main.

*The Yunpoong Reservoir of the Pyongnam Irrigation System which waters 40,000 jungbo of fields*





## The First Five-Year Plan

The Korean people, on the basis of the brilliant achievements attained during the Three-Year Plan, undertook the First Five-Year Plan in 1957 which was outlined at the Third Congress (April 1956) of the Workers' Party of Korea.

The basic tasks set forth in the plan are to consolidate further the foundation of socialist economy and to solve basically the problems of food, clothing and housing for the

*The reconstructed blast furnace No. 1 of the Hwang-hai Iron Works. The Korean workers rebuilt it in only one year*





*A construction site in Pyongyang. In 1958 three times as much apartments as the original plan were built*

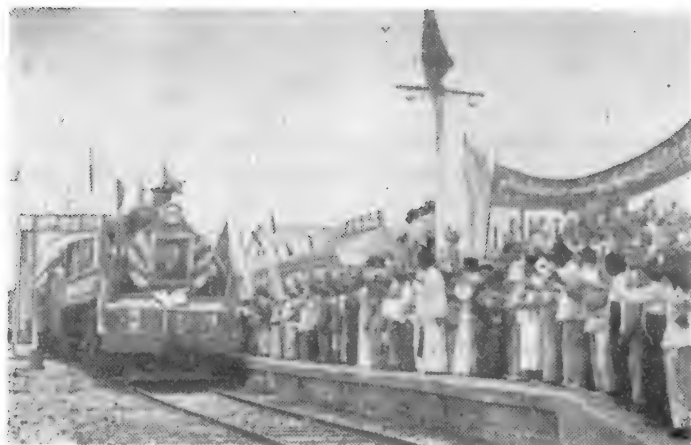
people. The vast plan envisages the conversion of our backward agrarian country into an industrial-agricultural one with a self-supporting economic foundation. In the course of carrying out the tasks of the plan in the first year, the entire working people gave full play to their labour enthusiasm and creativeness in response to the call of the December 1956 Plenum of the Party Central Committee for increasing production and practising economy to the maximum. A great turn was made in the labour struggle of the working people, and a mass innovation movement spread far and wide. Labour productivity registered a sharp rise and huge internal resources latent in the national economy were tapped and mobilized.

Thus in 1957, with both the state assignments and an extra plan for increased production set by the workers themselves overfulfilled, the gross industrial output value increased by 44 per cent as against 1956, and the grain output reached 3,200,000 tons, surpassing the previous year by 11.4 per cent.

The great upsurge of production in 1957, the first year of the First Five-Year Plan, was further enhanced in 1958, bringing about fresh miraculous results in all branches of the national economy.

Keeping pace with the working people led by the working class who are marching along the road of building socialism

*The opening ceremony of the Haijoo-Hasung broad gauge railway covering 80 km which was laid in 75 days (1958)*



on a winged horse, the relations of production underwent a rapid change, and beginning with August 1958, the socialist economic sector became solely predominant in all branches of the national economy.

#### Proportion Shared by Socialist Economic Sector

	(In percentages)				
	1946	1949	1953	1957	1958
Gross industrial output value	72.4	90.7	96.1	98.7	100
Value of gross agricultural produce	—	3.2	8	88.2	100
Amount of retail commodity circulation	3.5	56.5	67.5	87.9	100

With the completion of agricultural co-operativization in August 1958, the last stronghold of medium and small merchants and industrialists, who were relying on the small-scale production in the countryside, collapsed, and their socialist transformation was concluded simultaneously with agriculture.

In this way, all sources of exploitation and poverty in the towns and countryside were liquidated once and for all, and qualitative changes in the development of our country took place.

At the celebration meeting of the 10th birthday of the D.P. R.K. (1958), Premier Kim Il Sung set forth the gigantic tasks of attaining the following goals in major industries within the next 6-7 years: electricity 20 billion kwh, coal 25 million tons, pig and granulated iron 4 million tons, steel 3-3.5 million tons, cement 5 million tons, textiles 500 million metres, sugar 100,000 tons and fish one million tons. Grain output will reach 7 million tons in the near future.



*The poster symbolizes Chullima Movement—great leap in socialist construction in our country*

When the major industrial output is raised by 2.6-9-fold within the next 6-7 years, the Korean people will find themselves on a high peak where they can see on the horizon the Communist society as a reality, not an ideal.

The realization of the tasks will accelerate the peaceful unification of the country and build a firm material foundation, which will bring a happy life to the South Korean people, too.

The gigantic tasks set forth by Premier Kim Il Sung called upon all working people to make fresh labour exploits.

Particularly the letter of the Party Central Committee to the entire membership in September 1958, gave an impetus to the

unparalleled labour enthusiasm and creativeness of the entire socialist builders of our country.

The entire workers, who have resolved to carry out the tasks earlier than the set time of 6-7 years, raised their productivity 2-3 times by widely introducing mechanization, automation, rational organization of labour and pushing ahead with technical reconstruction in all branches of the national economy, and, by shattering the mystery about technique, came to produce for the first time in our country many large-sized machines including tractors, bulldozers and excavators.

The gross industrial output value in 1958 increased by 40 per cent over 1957, or 4 times the pre-war 1949 level.

Following the decision of the June 1958 Plenum of the Party Central Committee for actively stepping up local industry, over 1,000 locally-run factories came into existence by the end of 1958 and huge amount of latent reserves was explored.

The year 1958 harvested 3,700,000 tons of grain despite a severe drought.

The ratio between industry and agriculture underwent a change. The proportion shared by gross industrial output value rose from 28 per cent in 1946 to over 65 per cent. Moreover, in the composition of industry and in its geographical distribution the serious colonial onesidedness was removed.

As a consequence, our country has been turned into a socialist industrial-agricultural state with a firm self-supporting economic foundation. And now our country is being turned into an advanced industrial state reconstructing all branches of the national economy with up-to-date technique.

With the completion of co-operativization, our countryside is also being turned into a rich and modern one; our rural economy is being equipped with new techniques; irrigation, mechanization and electrification of countryside are being pushed ahead.



*Small-scale cement factory in Bongsan County of North Hwang-hai Province—one of more than 1,000 local factories built in 1958*

In this way our national economy is developing at the speed of a winged horse, and the people's living has been improving steadily while the technical and cultural revolution is being carried on successfully.

In only 5 years after the war, our country had healed its severe war wounds and is now advancing in full force. All this is attributable to the correct economic policy of the Workers' Party of Korea of combining priority development of heavy industry with expansion of the light industry and agriculture, to the devoted

labour of the entire working people and to the proletarian internationalist assistance given by the socialist countries.

Being encouraged by these achievements, the entire working people made continuous advance in carrying out their determination to fulfil the First Five-Year Plan within the cur-

rent year (1959), more than two years ahead of the set time. Along with the rapid progress in production, they are working fresh miracles through a vigorous struggle to improve their products.

Thus as of the end of June, 1959, the entire workers in the industrial branches fulfilled their assignments under the First Five-Year Plan in terms of gross output value.

## INDUSTRY

Our industry, having eliminated its colonial onesidedness and deformity, has built a firm self-supporting foundation, and carried on a brisk reconstruction work for mechanization and automation.

The fuel and electric bases were further consolidated, and various medium-sized machines and equipment, structural steel and non-ferrous metal products, chemicals and medicines, building materials, cotton and silk fabrics, glass wares and ceramics, canned meat, fish, fruit and vegetables are being produced in quantities.

### Growth of Gross Industrial Output Value

1946	1949	1953	1956	1957	1958	Target envisaged under the First Five-Year Plan
100	337	216	615	890	1,240	1,637

### Share of Major Industrial Branches in the Gross Industrial Output Value (in percentages)

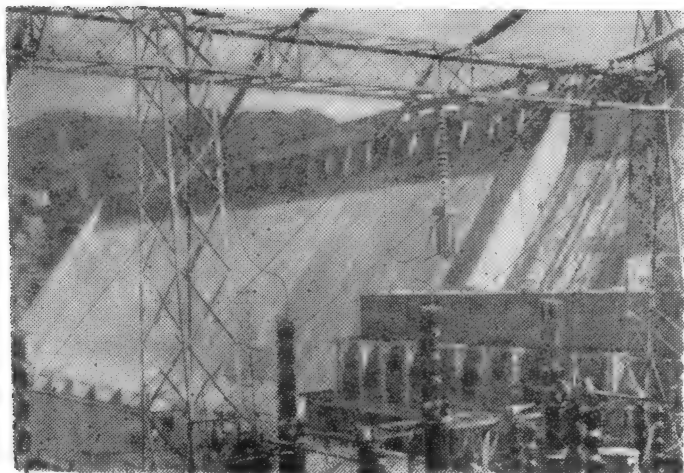
	1944	1949	1958	Growth in 1958 over 1949
Fuel	3.8	4.1	1.4	1.4 times
Mining industry	15.7	8.1	4.6	2.2 times



Metallurgical industry	13.3	11	7.2	2.6 times
Machine-building and metal working industry	1.6	8.1	16.6	7.7 times
Chemical industry	10.1	9.5	5.5	2.3 times
Timber and wood- working industry	20	6.4	4.3	2.7 times
Textile industry	6	11.4	16.1	5.6 times
Stationery and sundry goods	0.9	1.6	6.2	15 times

**Electricity:** In 1958, the output of electricity increased to 7,630 million kwh, or seven times that in 1953 right after truce.

*The Soopoong Hydro-power Station, one of the  
biggest in Asia*



At present, together with the building of large-scale hydro- and thermo-power plants aiming at accelerating electrification of our country and completing electrification of the countryside within the next one or two years, medium- and small-scale hydro-, thermo- and wind-power plants are being built in various parts of Korea. In the near future, the per capita production of electricity is expected to reach 2,000 kwh.

**Coal:** While the existing mines are being reconstructed and expanded with up-to-date technique, an intensive programme for locating new coal deposits is being pushed ahead.

In coal cutting, hydraulic and other advanced methods are widely employed along with introduction of comprehensive mechanization.

In 1958, the coal output reached 6,880,000 tons, a growth of 9.6 times over the 1953 figure. It is expected that the per capita output will reach 2,500 kilogram in the near future.

**Metal Industry:** There are large-scale metal-working industrial bases in our Republic.

In 1958, blast furnace No. 1 of the Hwanghai Iron Works and blast furnace No. 2 of the Kim Chaik Iron Works were completely reconstructed by the Koreans themselves in the short space of time. From designing to the last nail everything was planned and made by our workers and technicians.

Copper and zinc shops in the Nampo Smelter were also newly built.

New methods of manufacturing iron with ferro-coke and of smelting copper with anthracite were put into practice.

In 1958, output of the metallurgical industry was 24 times that of 1953, the year of the truce. The output of iron ore reached 1,550,000 tons, and pig and granulated iron was about 400,000 tons and steel 365,000 tons.

New facilities capable of producing one million tons of pig iron by making use of electricity are being added. Besides, the existing iron and steel manufacturing facilities, rolling equipment and non-ferrous metallurgical establishments are being greatly expanded. Moreover, many small-sized blast furnaces, converters and rolling mills are being built throughout the country in order to meet the local demands. And the geographical survey programme is being stepped up along with the bigger-scale exploitation of mines and expansion of mining facilities.

In the near future the annual output of pig and granulated iron will reach 4 million tons and steel 3-3.5 million tons, which will be able to satisfy the requirement of the country for steel products.

*Electric furnace of the Kangsun Steel Works*





*Premier Kim Il Sung inspecting the Hichun Machine-tool Factory*

**Machine-building Industry:** Though our machine-building and metal-working industries only came into being after liberation, they had grown 41 times in 1958 compared with 1946. Our machine-building and metal-working industries have established a powerful, self-supporting foundation for the country's industrialization.

Already some factories and mines can be equipped fully with machinery and equipment produced at home. In 1958 our machine-building industry produced 343 generators, over 17,000 electric motors, 8,000 transformers, 1,450 metal-cutting machines, farm machines and implements worth over 7.1 million won, over 300 motor-boats, etc. Tractors, excavators, lorries, bulldozers, electric locomotives for mines, 50-ton refrigerator

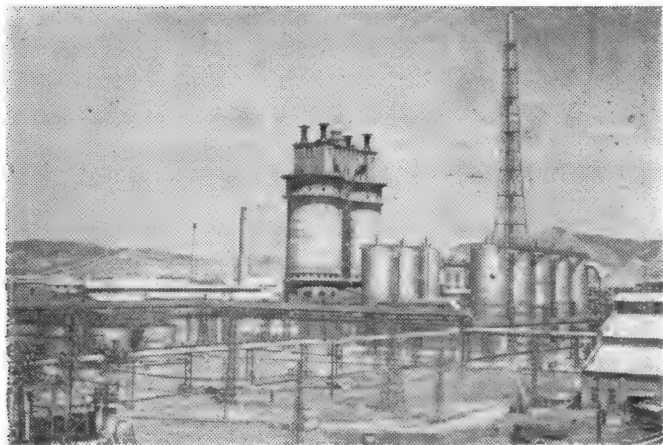
ships, hydraulic generators with a capacity of 4,000 kw, all-purpose milling-machines, automatic looms and threshing machines were produced for the first time in our country.

The machine-building industry is growing at a rapid pace in order to meet the demand for machines and equipment for all-round technical transformation now taking place in every branch of the national economy. A tractor shop is under construction at the Kiyang Machine-building Factory which will turn out more than 7,000 tractors annually. The Koosung Machine-tool Factory is under construction and the Dukchun Automobile Factory is being expanded. Of late a nation-wide movement for making each machine-tool produce more than one machine-tool is being unfolded in our country. During the first six months of 1959 alone, 2,474 machine tools were produced besides those envisaged in the plan.

**Chemical Industry:** Our chemical industry is rapidly developing laying the material foundation for meeting the demand of agriculture and light industry.

In 1958, the output of chemical industry grew 10 times that in 1953. Of major products, chemical fertilizers reached 457,000 tons (of which ammonium sulphate was 284,000 tons), caustic soda 14,000 tons, and carbide 150,000 tons.

By 1965, the per capita output of chemical fertilizers—nitrogenous, phosphorus, potash, etc.—will be 150-200 kilograms. The chemical industry will be able to satisfy fully the need of the textile industry for vinalon and other artificial fibre. At the same time organic chemical and pharmaceutical industries are also expected to be developed to a considerable degree.



*The Ammonium Nitrate Shop of the Heungnam  
Fertilizer Factory*

*The February 8 Madong Cement Factory*



**Building-materials Industry:** Building-materials industry is being rapidly built up in order to develop the national economy and raise the people's living standard. In 1958, it grew 72 times that in 1946.

In 1958, 1,244,000 tons of cement and 3,270,000 square metres of plate-glass were produced, and pre-fab concrete parts were turned out in great quantities. The per capita output of cement will reach 500 kilograms in the near future.

**Light Industry:** Our light industry, insignificant in the pre-liberation days under the Japanese imperialists' rule, has made rapid growth after liberation.

At present it has a powerful base. As of the end of 1958, the textile industry grew 38 times that in 1946; food processing and favourite goods industry 8 times; stationery and sundry goods industry 92 times; rubber industry 64 times; tanning and shoe-making industries 107 times. During the year of 1958, light industry saw much mechanization and automation, and brought about technical innovations, securing artificial fibre from reed and maize stalks. During the year 110,000,000 metres of fabrics were produced. And 21,000,000 pairs of footwear furniture worth 12,610,000 won, glass products and ceramic ware worth over 14,600,000 won were turned out.

As a whole, the new varieties of products are steadily increasing, and the quality of products bettered markedly.

Many new shops and factories were added during the year. Several new workshops were built at the Pyongyang Silk Mill and Chungjin Spinning Mill, and a food processing factory came into being in Bookchung. Besides, scores of large and medium modern factories including Bongoong Vinalon Factory, Vinalon Chloride Shop, Shinuijoo Textile Combinat,



*The weaving shop of the Pyongyang Textile Mill*

Hamheung Meat Packing Factory, etc. are now being constructed.

In the course of carrying out the decisions of the June 1958 Plenum of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea on launching a nation-wide movement for increasing food and daily necessities, over 1,060 medium and small factories were newly built, which are capable of turning out products worth more than one billion won annually.

It is expected that in the near future the per capita output of fabrics will reach 50 metres. Then the question of clothing will be solved completely.

**Fishing Industry:** There are state fisheries, fishermen's co-ops, agro-fishery co-ops in our country. Several thousand fish-



ing-boats are in operation. Pelagic, deep-sea, small scale fishing, and whale fishing are widely carried out.

The per capita fish catch in 1958 was 68.2 kilograms, or 2.3 times the 1949 figure.

Culture in shallow seas and saline land, and fish-breeding in reservoirs, lakes, rivers, and even paddy fields, which amount to one third of the total acreage of arable land, is developing rapidly.

Fish catch will reach in 1961 one million tons, plus another one million tons of other marine products including fresh-water fish.

**Timber Industry:** Timber industry in 1958 was 2.7 times that in 1949, of which the output of logs reached over 3,150,000 cubic metres.

For the further development of timber industry, afforestation is being carried out on a nationwide scale.

## AGRICULTURE

In our agriculture main stress is laid on

*Timber is conveyed in Mt. Baikdoo*





*Ploughing paddy-fields by tractor*

raising grain output and simultaneously developing cultivation of industrial crops, livestock breeding, sericulture, fruit growing, fish-breeding in fresh water. A powerful food base is created and a source of raw materials for industry is secured.

**Crop Farming:** Since the truce, the sown area has been expanded considerably, and in 1958 the area was nearly 450,000 jungbo greater than in 1953. Land utility rate also was raised to 125 per cent in 1954 and 161 per cent in 1958.

The amount of chemical fertilizers supplied to the peasants in 1958 was 12 times greater than in 1953, and the amount of compost prepared by the peasants was 71 per cent over the 1957 figure.

Advanced farming methods are being introduced widely.



*Tending cold-bed seedlings*

In 1958, the cold-bed seedling method was applied to 50 per cent of the total paddy fields and the humus-pot method to 70 per cent of the total area sown to cotton.

Application of advanced farming method made it possible to raise the per hectare yield: the Dooam Agricultural Co-op in South Pyongan Province harvested 13 tons of rice per jungbo; the Korean-Rumanian Friendship Agricultural Co-op in South Pyongan Province 18 tons of maize per jungbo; the Wonsa Agricultural Co-op in South Hwanghai Province 4.5 tons of wheat per jungbo at maximum; the Sangjigang Agricultural Co-op in South Hwanghai Province 6.7 tons of cotton per jungbo.

Inasmuch as our country's arable land is limited, it is

essential to raise per-hectare yield by employing the intensive farming methods such as irrigating, deep ploughing, close planting and adequate manuring to boost agricultural products.

**Grain:** The main crop in our country is rice. In recent years the output of maize has been rapidly increased, and wheat and barley also widely cultivated.

Already in 1956, the grain output reached 2,870,000 tons outstripping the pre-war level, and the figure went up to 3,200,000 tons in 1957, and again to 3,700,000 tons in 1958. Thus the gross grain harvest in 1958 was approximately twice the 1946 figure.

With the wide application of intensive farming, the per-hectare harvest of grains will increase. It is expected that in the near future paddy rice will reach 10-15 tons, maize 4-5 tons and wheat 3-4 tons. Then the programmatic task of turning out 7 million tons of grain will be fully materialized.

**Industrial and Oil-bearing Crops:** Marked development has been made in growing industrial and oil bearing crops, too. In 1958, the areas sown to industrial crops grew 2.4 times compared with the previous year; the area sown to cotton was 3.1 times, flax 171 per cent, and tobacco 125 per cent. The year's cotton output was 8 times compared with the previous year.

Within the next 2 or 3 years the cotton output will reach over 200,000 tons by raising per-hectare yield to over 3-4 tons and expanding the sown areas. In the mountainous areas flax and hemp will be cultivated more widely.

Peanuts, sunflowers and other oil bearing plants will be cultivated on a wider scale so as to ensure the production of over 100,000 tons of edible oil in the near future. And in a few years, the areas under sugar beet will be expanded to 30,000 jungbo for producing 100,000 tons of sugar.

B e s i d e s , vegetable fields also will be expanded so as to satisfy the people's requirement for fresh vegetables all the year round.

#### **Livestock      Breeding:**

Compared with the end of 1953, the year of the truce, the total number of domestic animals in 1958 increased considerably: 1.3 times in Korean cows, 6 times in milch cows and 2.8 times in pigs. Production of meat grew 3.2 times during the five years after the truce. And the milk output was 2.7 times greater than 1957.

Within the next 2 or 3 years, the number of cows is to reach 1,000,000; pigs

4,000,000; sheep and goats 600,000-700,000. At least 300,000 Korean cows will be converted into milch cows so as to secure 460,000 tons of milk. It is foreseen that the meat production will reach 400,000 tons and the output of eggs will reach 1,500 million and wool over 700 tons.

Also rabbit-raising is widely encouraged in cities and the countryside.

**Sericulture:** In 1958, the silk-worm cocoon output was over 8,700 tons, or 1.6 times the pre-war peak level. The acreage of



*Korean ginseng famous for  
its tonic root*



*Many Korean cows are being converted into milch cows*

mulberry fields, groves for raising tussah worms and fields under castor beans will be further expanded, and the annual output of cocoons will reach 60,000-70,000 tons within the next 2 or 3 years.

**Fruit Growing:** A drive for more fruits, such as apples, pears, grapes, chestnuts, persimmons and peaches, has been sweeping the whole country.

Reclamation is being carried out for ensuring 100,000 jungbo more orchards within 2 or 3 years, of which 53,000 jungbo has already been brought under cultivation. And the country's fruit harvest will reach over 250,000 tons in the near future. It

is expected that the areas of orchards will be expanded to 200,000 jungbo within the coming 10 years.

Besides fruit growing, our agricultural co-ops are engaged in bee-keeping, collecting edible plants and wild fruits and food processing. And a considerable amount of chemical fertilizers, building materials, and iron and steel for their own use are being produced.

**Agricultural Co-ops:** With the consolidation of their organizational, economic foundation following the completion of co-operativization, agricultural co-ops in each ri administrative unit were merged into one in November 1958. There are 3,843 agricultural co-ops in our country. (Incidentally the total amount of common properties of agricultural co-ops was 686,000,000 won as of the end of 1958.)

All the farm land now belongs to the co-ops in accordance with the Standard Rules (Tentative) of Agricultural Co-op adopted at the National Congress of Agricultural Co-operatives in January 1959.

On this basis, our agricultural co-ops are actively carrying out re-adjustment of fields with a view to completing mechanization of farming. Now co-ops have tractors and other up-to-date farm machines; they have widely introduced advanced farming technique and utilize geographical conditions rationally in order to develop agriculture in a diverse way.

Agricultural co-ops run their own stores, schools, hospitals or clinics and have even a loan and credit system.

In February 1959, the rate of tax-in-kind was cut down from 22.4 per cent to 10 per cent on an average, and in some mountainous regions taxes are completely exempted.

This popular step will be a great help in further promoting the technical reformation of the rural economy and the rural



*Modern houses built in the Mankyungdai  
Agricultural Co-op in the suburbs of Pyongyang*

construction by substantially increasing the accumulation of the co-operatives, consolidating their foundation and further improving the living of the peasants.

Thus the face of all of our rural villages will be completely changed in a socialist way within four or five years.

**Technical Revolution in the Countryside:** The main line of technical revolution in our countryside is the establishment of an overall irrigation system, mechanization and electrification.

**Irrigation:** Already in the five years following the truce, the area of watered paddy fields was expanded from 227,000 jungbo to over 460,000, and 91 per cent of the total paddy fields is



brought under irrigation. Thanks to the nationwide drive for establishing irrigation systems on paddy and non-paddy fields launched in September 1958, as of June 1959 the irrigated area was newly added with 377,000 jungbo, or over three times greater than the Japanese imperialists did for 36 years in Korea.

Thus, irrigation, the key to technical transformation of agriculture, was in the main completed. River dykes and anti-erosion projects also were carried out on a wider scale.

It is planned that the existing irrigation facilities will be further reinforced and expanded, and the building of river dykes and anti-erosion work will be continued in some areas.

*Second-stage pumping station of the Kiyang Irrigation Project completed in May 1958*

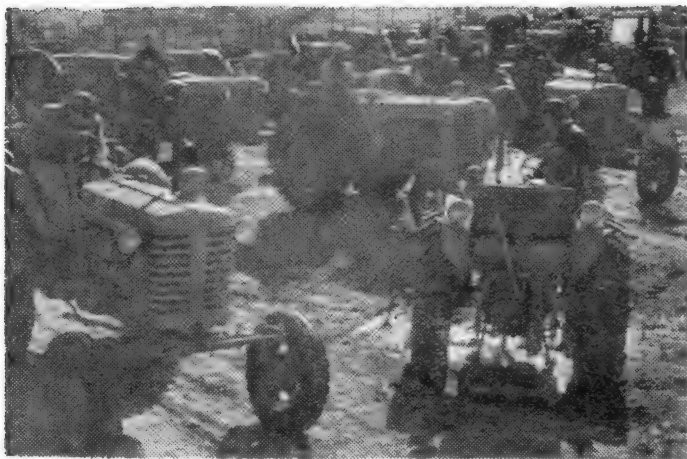


**Mechanization:** The network of the state farm-machine hire stations has been further expanded. As of the end of 1958, the number of tractors was 3.5 times (in terms of 15 h.p.) the 1953 figure, and the areas cultivated by tractors 10 times. A great number of farm machines and implements were supplied to the peasants.

Now in our country, the century-old primitive farm implements are replaced with up-to-date machines.

Our peasants will be supplied with 5,000 more tractors and 2,500 more lorries in 1959; and 30,000-35,000 tractors, 25,000-30,000 lorries and large quantities of various advanced farm machines in 1962-63. The fixed work will be completely mechanized and the most part of mobile work will be mechanized.

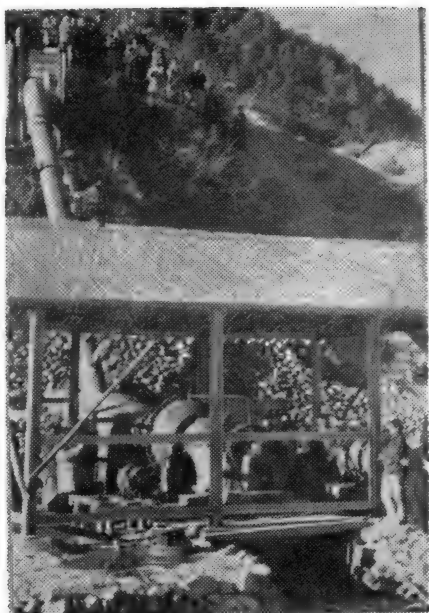
*Numerous tractors go to the countryside*



**Electrification:** As of the end of 1958, 67 per cent of the entire rural villages, or 49 per cent of the entire peasant households were provided with electricity.

While large power stations have been expanded or constructed with the Government funds, many medium- and small-scale power stations are being built by agricultural co-ops, making use of hydropower, thermopower, wind-mill, and even tidal waters. There were already over 570 medium- and small-scale power stations as of the end of 1958.

Thus electrification of the countryside will be completed between 1959 and 1960. During the first six months of 1959, 413 medium- and small-scale power stations were built, and 946 kilometres of distribution line put up in the countryside.



*A small-scale hydropower station with a generating capacity of 80 kw newly built in Wonduk ri, Hongwon County, South Hamkyung Province*

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

**Transport:** Transport facilities that we took over from the Japanese imperialists when the country was liberated were backward distorted ones.

Consequently, the colonial one-sidedness had to be eliminated while equipping the transportation facilities with modern technique. Moreover technicians of this field had to be trained in great numbers.

Thus, our transportation was able to meet the growing need of the national economy, and in the post-war years the war damages were recovered. Today, our transport is leaping ahead.

In 1958, the railway freightage increased to 131 per cent as compared with that of 1957 and the number of passengers to 104 per cent.

A vast programme has been drawn up to extend the railway and highway network. According to this programme, the Pyung-san-Jihari Railway Line construction was completed and Samdeung-Sepo and other lines are being built. The electrification of Danchun-Myungchun Railway Line is in progress. Moreover, the preparatory work for completing the electrification of railways in the near future is being pushed ahead. Keeping pace with the growth of railway and automobile transport, water transport, too, has developed on a broader scale. In 1958 freightage by water transport was 81 per cent greater than 1957.

The intercourse between our country and brother countries becomes more frequent. Now, TU-104 is regularly flying between Pyongyang and Moscow. There is also regular air service between Pyongyang and Peking.

**Communications:** At the time of their surrender the Japanese imperialists destroyed many communication facilities in Korea. Consequently, the first task we faced after liberation was to restore the destroyed communication facilities, only to be destroyed again during the U.S.-provoked war. However, with the cessation of hostilities the communication system was restored rapidly. In 1958, the communication facilities increased to 112 per cent as against 1957. As of the end of March of 1959 telephone lines were laid through the entire villages of the northern part of the Republic, not to speak of provinces, cities and counties.

International telephone lines connect our country with Moscow and Peking and the capitals of other brother countries.

In recent years tele-communication between Korea and Japan, India and Switzerland is increasing.

Radio broadcasting stations and through-wire-radio-relay stations throughout the country number several hundreds. The Central Broadcasting Station in Pyongyang is the main station.

In 1958 the number of radio with amplifiers grew to 179 per cent compared with 1957.

## **CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION**

Capital construction is one of the most important factors for the overall development of the national economy and promotion of material and cultural well-being of the people. A vast construction programme was drawn up not only for the healing of the war wounds, but for the acceleration of socialist upbuilding.

In towns and villages dwelling houses, and cultural and public welfare establishments are now being constructed on a

large scale with state and co-op funds. Productive construction has priority in the construction programme.

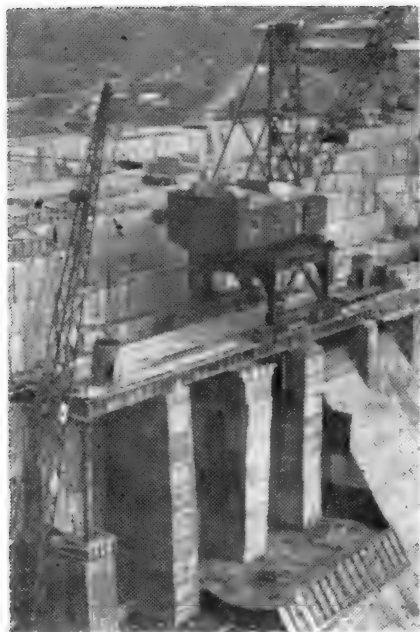
Since 1958 standardized designs and assembly-line method have been widely employed in construction. As a result, an epochal innovation was brought about in the capital construction.

In 1958 alone, the state appropriated 341 million won for capital construction, 74 per cent of which were appropriated for building productive facilities.

In 1958, 59 per cent of the housing construction was done by assembly-line method. The production of pre-fabricated parts was 4.9 times that in 1957. Hence construction was considerably mechanized. The rapid speed of construction brought about an

*Multi-storied prefabricated apartment buildings  
springing up in Hamheung city*





*The Dokrogang Hydro-power Station under construction*

upsurge in all spheres of the national economy. The capacity of producing 225,000 kva of electricity, 500,000 tons of pig iron and 136,000 tons of ammonium nitrate fertilizers were newly created ahead of the scheduled time and the large-scale irrigation projects, 2.1 times as great as the preceding year, were carried out. In transport the Haijoo-Hasung broad gauge railway covering 80 kilometers was newly laid taking only 75 days.

During the year 1958 the building workers in Pyongyang were determined to construct

the apartments to accommodate 20,000 families without additional labour power and investment, though their original target for 1958 was 7,000. And by the end of the year apartments to accommodate 21,600 families were erected.

Construction of hydropower stations, factories and enterprises now under way should be stepped up further and many new up-to-date factories and enterprises be added. A larger

scale construction program of educational, cultural, and public welfare establishments as well as dwelling houses will be carried out. In Pyongyang alone dwelling houses to accommodate tens of thousands of families and many parks will be built. Moreover, it is expected that a large opera house with a seating capacity of 2,000, a workers' palace, a youth palace, a children's palace, and large department stores will be completed before the 15th anniversary of Liberation (August 15, 1960).

## HOME AND FOREIGN TRADE

**Home Trade:** Along with the rapid development of industry and agriculture the volume of the state and co-op commodity circulation has been growing every year since liberation. With the completion of the socialist remodelling of individual traders the socialist trade set up the exclusive domination in the home market.

With the expansion of the state and co-op trade, the turnover of the state and co-op retail trade further increased as can be seen in the following table.

Growth of Retail Commodity Circulation					
	1949	1953	1956	1957	1958
Turnover of retail commodity circulation (including public catering service)	100	64	119	187	267
Of which: the state and co-op trade	100	83	205	321	457

In 1958, the volume of consumer goods sold through the state and co-op retail trade organs increased compared with



the preceding year: cotton fabrics to 126 per cent; silk fabrics to 134 per cent; woollen fabrics 3.4 times; ready-made clothes 2.3 times; underwear to 143 per cent; soap to 167 per cent; furniture and items for cultural use 2.4 times; stationery to 150 per cent; medicines 4.2 times; grain to 118 per cent; meat to 197 per cent; marine products to 124 per cent; candies to 155 per cent; fruits to 139 per cent; and cider 2.9 times.

In accordance with the growing demand of the population the number of trade organs increased.

In 1958 alone 1,500 new state trade organs and restaurants were opened.

Since the war there have been repeated price cuts, and in 1958 the retail price index stood at 50 per cent as compared with that of 1953. Particularly prices of foodstuff were markedly lowered.

**Foreign Trade:** Our country's foreign trade with socialist countries has been developing on the basis of international specialization and co-operation.

Besides, there has been an increase of trade with India, Indonesia, Burma and the United Arab Republic. The trading companies of our country have made contracts with trading companies of capitalist countries including Japan and Britain.

In 1958 the volume of export was 35 per cent greater than 1957. The varieties of exports and imports have been steadily extended. Along with the development of industry and agriculture, industrial products and processed goods constitute greater portion of export. Special machinery and equipment, oil and fats, rubber, and raw materials and semi-finished goods occupy the greater part of import. It is expected that within the next one or two years the volume of exports will grow 2 to 3 times.

## FINANCE

Our national budget is characterized by the fact that the taxes collected from the population cover a very little portion of the revenue. The budgetary revenue comes mainly from the socialist economic sector. And in the expenditures, appropriation for social, cultural and public welfare establishments in order to raise the people's material and cultural standards cover greater portion.

While in 1946 the taxes from the population accounted for 54.5 per cent of the revenue (agricultural tax-in-kind included) in 1958 the figure was only 2.3 per cent (agricultural tax-in-kind excluded). The figure will decrease further to 2 per cent in 1959. Income from the socialist economy increased from 45.5 per cent in 1946 to 93.5 in 1958 and 95.3 in 1959, and the expenditures for the national economy and social and cultural fields grew from 39.7 per cent in 1946 to 89.2 in 1958, and to 89.4 in 1959. The year 1958 showed a favorable balance of 215 million won, while in 1946 it was 2,870,000 won.

As the country's finance became stable and money circulation stabilized, the purchasing power of the *won* continued to rise.

On the basis of the rapid development of the national economy, the firm foundation of the state finance and abundant material reserve, the Cabinet of the Republic adopted in February 1959 a currency exchange with a view to further consolidating the currency system and facilitating trade.

The currency exchange was done at the rate of 100 to 1 without any limitation in the amount of exchange.

The Korean Central Bank, which issues bank notes, the Korean Export and Import Bank and the State Construction Funds Bank are main financial organs of our country. Savings and business transactions are done at savings offices under the State Central Bank and post offices, and the State Insurance Bureau handles the state insurance work.



*The Pyongyang Youth Park on holiday*

## THE PEOPLE'S LIFE

**Food, Clothing and Housing:** One of the foremost tasks envisaged in the First Five-Year Plan is to basically solve the questions of food, clothing and housing for the people. The questions are being solved successfully. It will not be long before the people's living standard of our country will reach the level of advanced countries.

*Foodstuff counter at Pyongyang Department Store No. 2*



In 1958 the total output of grain was 3,700,000 tons. The once difficult grain problem has been completely solved. When the per capita grain output reaches over 700 kilograms in the near future, foodstuffs will be more abundant.

Every effort is being made to produce more foodstuffs. In the near future per capita output will reach 40 kilograms in meat; 46 kilograms in milk; 150 in eggs; 100 kilograms in fish; 100 kilograms in fresh-

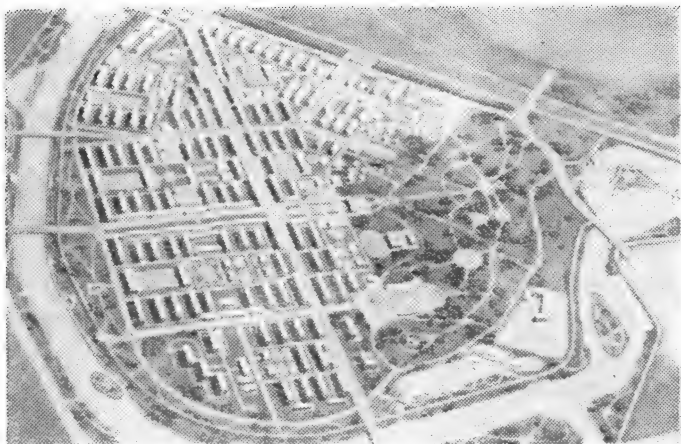


*Fabrics produced in our country*

water fish and marine products; and 20 grams per day in edible oil. Moreover, measures have been taken for providing the people with fresh vegetables all the year round. And the orchards will be expanded by 100,000 jungbo to boost the fruit yield.

The production of fabrics has grown markedly. In the near future, the per capita output of fabrics will reach 50 metres. Then there will be no more of the question of clothing for the people.

From the end of war up to 1956, dwelling houses with a total floor space of 13,400,000 square metres were built in urban and rural districts. From 1957 to 1958, a large number of



*A plan of the new multi-storied apartment blocks, which are under construction along the Botong River canal, Pyongyang*

multi-storey flats with a total floor space of 3,780,000 square metres were allotted to the workers and office employees, and more than 50,000 modern flats were built in the countryside by the agricultural co-ops with their own funds.

With the wide-scale application of pre-fab method in building and rapid development of building materials industry in the local districts, the housing construction programme envisaged in the Five-Year Plan will be carried out far ahead of schedule. It is expected that dwelling houses with a floor space of 10,000,000 square metres will be built with state funds in cities and towns and 200,000 houses for the peasants will be constructed with agricultural co-op funds.

**National Income:** The national income grew 3.8 times

during the five years after the truce, and in 1958 it was over 2.6 times the 1949 level.

**Prices:** Thanks to the repeated price cuts in retail commodities of state-owned and co-operative trade enforced on several occasions in the five years after the truce, the price index kept dropping. Taking 1953 as 100, the price index in 1958 was 51.6.

The following table shows the lowering of prices in consumer goods during the five years between the cessation of war (1953) and the year 1958.

	1953	1956	1958
Edible oil	100	59.0	57.8
Soy	100	30.2	30.2
Marine products	100	39.3	34.4
Meat	100	56.9	28.0
Vegetables	100	23.7	17.4
Fruits	100	68.4	49.3
Liquor	100	48.3	47.9
Cigarettes	100	59.6	59.6
Cotton fabrics	100	73.8	73.8
Silk fabrics	100	77.6	72.6
Rubber shoes	100	25.8	25.7
Soap	100	64.3	58.8
Stationery	100	31.8	31.4

**Monetary Wages:** Monetary wages of workers and office employees increased year after year, and in 1958 the level was 2.4-fold higher than 1953, or 2.5-fold compared with the pre-war year of 1949.

Thanks to growth in monetary wages, drop in prices and sharp reduction in taxes, real incomes of the workers and office employees in 1958 increased 1.6-fold compared with 1949.

On January 1, 1959, the monetary wages of workers and



office employees were raised again by 40 per cent on an average.

The reduction in the rate of tax-in-kind, adoption of fixed amount of tax-in-kind, lowering of fees for irrigation facilities, raising of procurement prices of agricultural produce—all this raised sharply the real income of the peasants in kind and cash. Consequently, the general standard of their life has been stepped up to the level of middle peasants or higher.

Growth of Share per Agricultural Co-op  
Peasant Household

	1955	1956	1957	1958
Grain (in kilogram)	1,250	1,616	1,742	1,826
Potatoes (in kilogram)	193	357	434	501
Cash (in won)	56.05	95.42	137.03	203.50

**State Social Insurance:** In case of leave on account of sickness, injury or nursing the sick among their family members, workers and office employees are entitled to receive the benefit of the state social insurance. They are paid subsidies for maternity leave, birth and funeral, and old people receive pensions. Moreover, workers and office employees enjoy paid holidays, vacation at sanatoriums, rest homes and camping places at the state expenses. Free medical treatment is given to the workers and office employees.

Sanatoriums and rest homes are being expanded and the number of those who visit sanatoriums and rest homes is increasing year after year. In 1958, it reached over 200,000, or 5.6 times greater than 1953. In 1959, the accommodation capacity of sanatoriums and rest homes will become approximately 48 per cent greater than in 1958.

**Social Security:** Social security provides material aid, employment and admittance to the establishments under social in-



*Workers enjoying themselves at the Songdan  
Rest-home at state expense*

surance.

Entitled to receive social security are disabled men, aged people who have no one to depend upon, cripples, army men's family members, disabled ex-servicemen, bereft children of revolutionaries and patriotic martyrs and orphans. And schools for disabled ex-servicemen and bereft children, asylums for the aged and crippled, foundling hospitals, orphanages, schools for orphans, the blind and the dumb are run by the state.

Even if one who is entitled to permanent social security takes any job, he will continuously receive the subsidy in addition to his regular pay.

**Protection of Mothers and Children:** Working women are granted maternity leave, 35 days before and 42 days after con-

finement, and they can go to maternity home at the government expense.

For the working women and their children, a great number of creches and kindergartens are established in factories, enterprises and agricultural co-ops. Meals are provided for these children at the government expense.

Keeping pace with the increase of working women the accommodation capacity of creches and kindergartens is being expanded constantly: in 1958 alone 591 were newly established with over 40,000 beds. The number of beds will reach over 105,000 in 1959. In Pyongyang alone, more than 370 creches and kindergartens are to be built this year.

**Public Health:** In our public health work, stress is laid on prophylaxis and improvement of sanitary condition in work places and homes.

In 1958, 27 more hospitals with over 3,000 beds and 621 clinics were newly built. The number of clinics run by agricultural co-ops grew 2.2 times compared with the previous year. The number of doctors in 1958 increased by 58 per cent over 1957.

It was in 1952 that the free medical treatment was put into practice.

For the prevention of epidemics, there is the Central Anti-Epidemic Station under the Ministry of Public Health. There are the Central Anti-Epidemic Committee as a social organization and the State Sanitation Inspectors' Office. These organizations have their branches in every province, county and work place.

Production of medicine also increased sharply. The pharmaceutical industry in 1958 grew 92 times compared with 1946.



*Korean national dance "Ecstasy"*

## CULTURE

### EDUCATION

With liberation the colonial education system of Japanese imperialism was completely wiped out, and a new democratic educational system instituted. Education was put on the basis of true scientific knowledge and Marxism-Leninism, and progressed by leaps and bounds.

The number of illiterates which reached some 2,300,000 right after liberation was reduced almost to nil by 1949. Compared with the days of Japanese rule the number of schools increased greatly: in 1949 primary schools by 2.8 times, junior middle schools by 18.5 times, and colleges by 9 times. Then, 15 new institutes of higher learning, Kim Il Sung University included, were opened for the first time in the northern part of the country. And it was planned to enforce universal compulsory education in the 1950 school year, but the war provoked by the U.S. imperialists interrupted this. However, even during the difficult war time, every effort was made to keep going school classes from university down to primary school. Many were sent abroad for study to prepare for the post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation of the country.

Since the termination of the hostilities, education has been making rapid progress. Ten new technological institutes of university level were opened and the number of colleges has increased. The compulsory primary education system came into effect in 1956. In 1958, three years earlier than scheduled, universal compulsory middle school education was enforced for the first time in Asia.

At the beginning of the 1958-1959 school year the total number of schools in our country was more than 7,000 with a total enrolment of some 2,380,000, of which some 79,000 were studying in various colleges and technological institutes. The number of institutes of higher learning reached 22 with an enrolment of 36,000 students.

The state provides every help to the students. Particularly, students in technological institutes and colleges receive regularly scholarship from the state, which enable the sons and daughters of the working people and the youth who have no one to rely on to study in institutes of higher learning. The government raised by 40 per cent on an average scholarship commencing January 1, 1959, and completely abolished in April the system of tuition fees so as to guarantee the better condition in their study and accelerate the development of popular education.

Moreover, at present, the raising of the general educational level of the working people poses as one of the most important questions in pushing ahead with the cultural revolution. Illiteracy has been wiped out, but their general education level must be raised to that of primary or junior middle school graduates or higher. To this end, already more than 6,100 working people's schools and some 2,900 working people's middle schools had been established by the end of 1958, and 1,370,000 working people were studying at the schools.

Training technical personnel and raising the workers' technical standard will play an important role in our cultural revolution.

During the past ten years since the founding of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, more than 63,000 specialists and experts have been trained.

A series of measures have been taken to train a large number of specialists and experts who are needed for socialist



*Kim Il Sung University*

construction and technical reconstruction in particular. Technical schools of various levels were expanded. During the four to five years after the conclusion of the truce, the students of our country adopted a new praiseworthy habit of combining education with productive labour. Moreover, to heighten the technical level of the workers and peasants the network of correspondence courses and evening technical schools were greatly enlarged. Moreover, 15 new institutes of higher learning such as mining, machine-building, chemistry, transportation, light industry, agricultural colleges have been added in 1959. At the same time, the facilities of the existing institutes of higher learning are to be expanded to meet the need of the ever growing national economy.

It must be pointed out that in the very near future, compulsory technical education will come into effect, which will greatly expand the number of technical personnel. Preparations for this have

*Kim Chaik Polytechnical Institute students constructing Taidong River promenade. They drew up the design themselves*

been going on steadily, and already 143 various technical schools had been opened by the end of 1958, with an enrolment of more than 15,000.

## SCIENCE

The ranks of our scientists, armed with **Marxism - Leninism** and steeled in the arduous Fatherland Liberation War and in the post-war reconstruction, are constantly growing. They are true people's scientists who serve the interests of the people and who devote all their zeal and knowledge to socialist construction.





Our scientists aim, first of all, at solving the urgent problems that we encounter in the course of socialist construction, developing the rich heritages of science of our country and applying creatively the scientific achievements of the advanced countries to the actual conditions of our country.

Casting aside the mystery and conservative notions about science, the scientists of our country are going to factories and the countryside to do research work by linking their work with actual production. Moreover, they are aiding and encouraging the workers in every way to advance new ideas and suggestions.

Our scientists maintain close contact with various scientific organizations of the fraternal countries and various joint research projects are going on.

Among the major scientific organizations are the Academy of Sciences of the D.P.R.K., under which there are Institutes of Physics, Mathematics, Chemistry, Engineering, Economy, History, Linguistics and Literature, and Archeology and Ethnography and the Biological Research Room; the Academy of Agricultural Science, Academy of Medicine, Central Electricity Research Institute, the Central Light Industry Research Institute, etc., under the respective ministries.

The Academy of Sciences also maintains the Committee on Technical Terms, Committee on Compilation of Classics.

Besides these scientific organizations, there is the State Degree and Professorship Conferment Committee and the Committee on enquiry into Technical Qualifications. In Korea there are such degrees and professorships: Academician and Corresponding Academician, Doctor (Ph.D.), Master, Professor, and Associate Professor.

People's Prizes are awarded every year to those scientists and technical personnel who achieved outstanding successes.

## PRESS AND RADIO

To meet the growing demand of the heightening political interest and ever rising living standard of the people, the country's press and radio are developing by leaps and bounds.

In 1958, the publication printing grew 17 times compared with 1946, and compared with 1957 the circulation of newspapers was increased 39,620,000; books 23,300,000; and textbooks 6,110,000.

Classical books on Marxism-Leninism and "Selected Works of Kim Il Sung" and other Marxist-Leninist books on the Korean revolution as well as documents published by the Parties of the fraternal countries are being systematically published.

Compared with 1949, by the end of 1958 the volume of books on natural sciences increased by 396 per cent, books on technology and science by 1,318 per cent, literary books by 755 per cent, and social-political books by 433 per cent. Compared with 1946, by the end of 1958 textbooks increased by 660 per cent and the total number of copies by 245 per cent.

**News Agency:** Korean Central News Agency

**Newspapers:** The main newspapers of the country are:

*Rodong Shinmoon* (Daily Worker) (Organ of the C.C. of the Workers' Party of Korea), *Minjoo Chosun* (Democratic Korea) (Organ of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Assembly and the Cabinet), *Chokook Junsun* (Fatherland Front) (Organ of the C.C. of the United Democratic Fatherland Front), *Pyongyang Shinmoon* (Pyongyang Daily), *Rodongja Shinmoon* (Workers' Paper), *Nongmin Shinmoon* (Farmers' Paper), *Minjoo Chungnyun* (Democratic Youth), *Chosun Inminkoon* (Korean People's

Army), *Moonhak Shinmoon* (Literary Paper), *Choso Chinsun* (Korean-Soviet Friendship). Every province has several local papers, while factories and enterprises publish their own papers.

**Magazines:** Theoretical magazines—*Keunroja* (Working People). Scientific and technological magazines—*Technology and Science*, *Agro-science*, *Economic Construction*. History, *Korean Language*, *Korean Medicine*, *Machine-building Industry*, and others. Popular magazines—*Rodongja* (Worker), *Chungnyun Sainghwal* (Youth Life), *Chosun Yusung* (Korean Women), *Inmin Chosun* (People's Korea), *Hwalsal* (Arrow) and others. Literary magazines—*Chosun Moonhak* (Korean Literature), *Chosun Yesool* (Korean Arts), *Chosun Eumak* (Korean Music), *Chosun Misool* (Korean Fine Arts), *Choso Moonhwa* (Korean-Soviet Culture), and others. Translated magazines,—*Pyonghwawa Sahoi-jooi Jemoonje* (Problems of Peace and Socialism), *Bun yuk Wolkan* (Translations Monthly), and others. Foreign languages magazines—*New Korea* (biweekly in Russian and Chinese), *Korea Today* (monthly in English and Japanese), *Korea* (pictorial in Korean, Russian, Chinese, English and Japanese).

**Publishing Houses:** Workers' Party of Korea Publishing House, Foreign Languages Publishing House, Educational Books and Textbooks Publishing House, State Publishing House, State Industrial Books Publishing House, Korean Writers' Union Publishing House, State Literary and Art Books Publishing House, Youth Publishing House, Children's Books Publishing House, and others.

**Radio:** The State Central Radio Broadcasting Station and several local stations. Many factories and co-op are equipped with wire-relay sets. Broadcasting hours: from 0500 to 0200. Radio programmes in foreign languages: in Russian, Chinese, Japanese, and English.



*Korean national instruments ensemble (the  
State Korean Classical Art Theatre)*

## LITERATURE AND ARTS

Socialist realism is the only creative method of our literature and arts dedicated to the country's peaceful unification, to the victory of socialism and Communism, to peace and to the friendship and unity among nations. To the writers and artists of our country, there exists only one thing, the interests of the people and the state. They study profoundly the people and their life—the true source of their creation. To depict truly the people's life our writers and artists live with the workers and peasants at the factories and in the countryside. For the further development of the rich heritages of our national culture they are studying and learning classical Korean

literature and arts, while introducing literature and arts of the advanced countries and the world classics into our life.

Particularly, successes achieved by the Korean Association of Proletarian Literature and Arts (KAP) in further developing literature and arts of socialist realism under the influence of revolutionary literature and arts that came into being in the course of the anti-Japanese partisan struggle carried out by the staunch Communists led by Comrade Kim Il Sung have been the mainspring in the development of our literature and arts.

At the same time, our writers and artists are resolutely fighting against national nihilism, cosmopolitanism, naturalism,

*A scene of "Molten Iron Flows" played by the State Dance Theatre*





*A still from technical colour feature film "Tale of Choon Hyang"*

formalism and all other expressions of reactionary literature and arts. Vehemently they oppose the anti-popular, reactionary literature and arts in South Korea while rejecting embellishment, distortion, dogmatic conception or vulgarization of the reality.

Our literature and arts with a growing ideological and artistic content are deeply loved by the Korean people and highly praised in foreign countries.

Quite a few of our literary works, classic and modern, are translated into many foreign languages, our art troupes travelled far and wide, our artists held exhibitions in foreign

countries and a great number of Korean films are shown in various countries. The number of medals won by Korean participants in the World Youth and Students Festivals increased, which is an indication of how highly our art has been appreciated by foreign audiences. In these fields there are such organizations as Korean Writers' Union, Korean Composers' Union, and Korean Artists' Union.

Among theatrical organizations are State Dramatic Theatres No. 1 and No. 2 and Children's Dramatic Theatre.

In music and other fields there are the State Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra, State Chorus, State National Art Theatre, State Art Theatre, State Dance Theatre. Then there is the State Acrobatic Theatre. Besides these organizations, the Korean People's Army, and the Ministries of Interior and Transport maintain their own art groups, while in provinces (or cities) there are also art theatres.

The Korean Feature Film Studio, Korean Documentary Film Studio and the Scenario Writing House are the main organizations of film industry.

There are also several construction designing research institutes, art goods manufacturing centre, and art, handicraft and embroidery institutes under the Ministry of Light Industry.

For training young musicians, dancers, actors and actresses there are the State Conservatory of Music, Academy of Fine Arts, Dancing School, Institute of Dramatic Arts, besides the institutes for training writers and film workers. In September 1959, the Dramatic Arts and Writers' Schools became Dramatic Arts and Cinematography and Literary Institutes.

Writers and artists are well provided for by the state. They are awarded, according to their merits, titles of People's Artist, Merited Artist. And every year outstanding literary and art works are given People's Prizes.

## FACILITIES FOR MASS CULTURE

Facilities for mass culture play an important role in the cultural revolution.

In factories, shops, offices, farms and in the communities democratic publicity halls or clubs were built for the first time after liberation and the number is constantly growing. By the end of 1958, the number of democratic publicity hall stood at 5,242 and there were 472 clubs.

*A scene from "Phoenix" staged by State  
Drama Theatre No. 1*





In these establishments the toiling masses cultivate communist ideology and morality, and study the history and the policy of the Workers' Party of Korea. They further serve to popularize industrial knowhow and to raise the general educational level of the toiling masses.

Also these establishments are the centres of the cultural activities of the working people. Since liberation the mass cultural program has been developing by leaps and bounds.

Workers, peasants, students and army men use these facilities for their circle activities. By the end of 1958, there were 80,000 circles with a total membership of 1,980,000. There are music, dance, drama, literary, fine arts, handicrafts and other circles.

**Theatres and Cinemas:** Throughout the country in the first

#### *Moranbong Theatre*





*A workers' circle of the Heungnam Fertilizer  
Factory giving a performance*

half of 1959, over 730 theatres and cinemas operated and spectators increased by 20,000,000 as against the corresponding period of 1958. More theatres and cinemas are being built. In 1959 in Pyongyang alone the construction of an opera house and a national acrobatic theatre both with a seating capacity of 2,000 has been started. Then one theatre with a seating capacity of 1,000 and five cinemas with a total seating capacity of 3,400 will be completed before the year is out. Already the Youth Amphitheatre with a seating capacity of 20,000 has been completed.



*The Pyongyang Beer Factory workers studying the revolutionary tradition of the Korean people achieved in 1930's at the study room of history of the Workers' Party of Korea*

**Libraries and Museums:** State Central Library, the Library of the Academy of Sciences, the Kim Il Sung University Library are the main ones.

Besides, in every province, city and county or district there are state libraries while institutions, factories, offices and agricultural co-ops maintain their own libraries.

Compared with 1946, 1958 saw an increase of about 5.3 times in the number of libraries while the number of books increased by about 537 times.

In 1959 the State Central Library will have a new building and the number of books will reach 2,000,000.

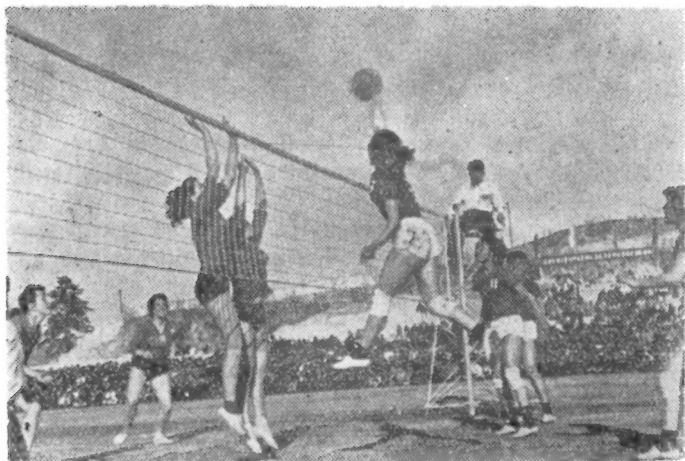
There was only one museum when the country was liberat-

ed in 1945, but now the number went up to 14. The Central Historical Museum, National Liberation Struggle Museum, Fine Arts Museum, Ethnographical Museum, and the Fatherland Liberation War Memorial are some of the main ones. Besides these, numerous rooms for the study of the history of the Workers' Party of Korea are to be found in factories, enterprises, schools, army barracks and communities.

### PHYSICAL CULTURE AND SPORTS

Physical culture and sports are being promoted on a mass scale in our country moulding the young generation into healthy, valiant optimistic socialist builders.

*Women's volley-ball match between Bulgarian team and Korean February 8 team (At the Kaesong stadium)*

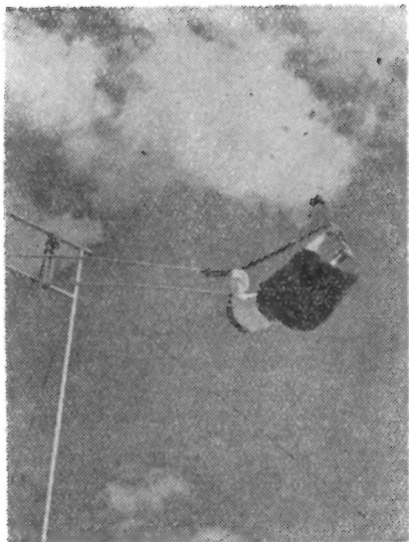


There were some 10,378 sports organizations throughout the country by the end of 1958 with a total membership of 1,110,000. In the post-war years, some 4,500 stadiums and play grounds of various sizes and 10,000 volleyball and basketball courts were either restored or newly built. Besides the Physical Culture Institute, there are schools for physical culture and sports to train young people. It is expected that in 1959-60 the number of such schools will reach 300. Major industrial establishments maintain physical culture consultants.

Physical examinations are held regularly, and tens of thousands are classified into 1st, 2nd and juvenile grades.

The country's athletes are classified into Master of Sport, and Athletes First and Second Classes. Our sportsmen participate in many international games.

Mass physical culture and sports programme is becoming more active every year. Particularly such national sports games as wrestling and swinging are very popular.



*Korean women's traditional game  
"swinging"*

At present our basketball, volleyball, boxing, table tennis, football, skating and shooting teams are affiliated with the respective international organizations.

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*Korean mothers enjoy freedom, happiness, and their outlook  
for future is so bright under the banner of the Democratic  
People's Republic of Korea*

